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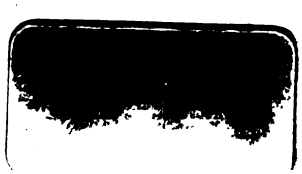

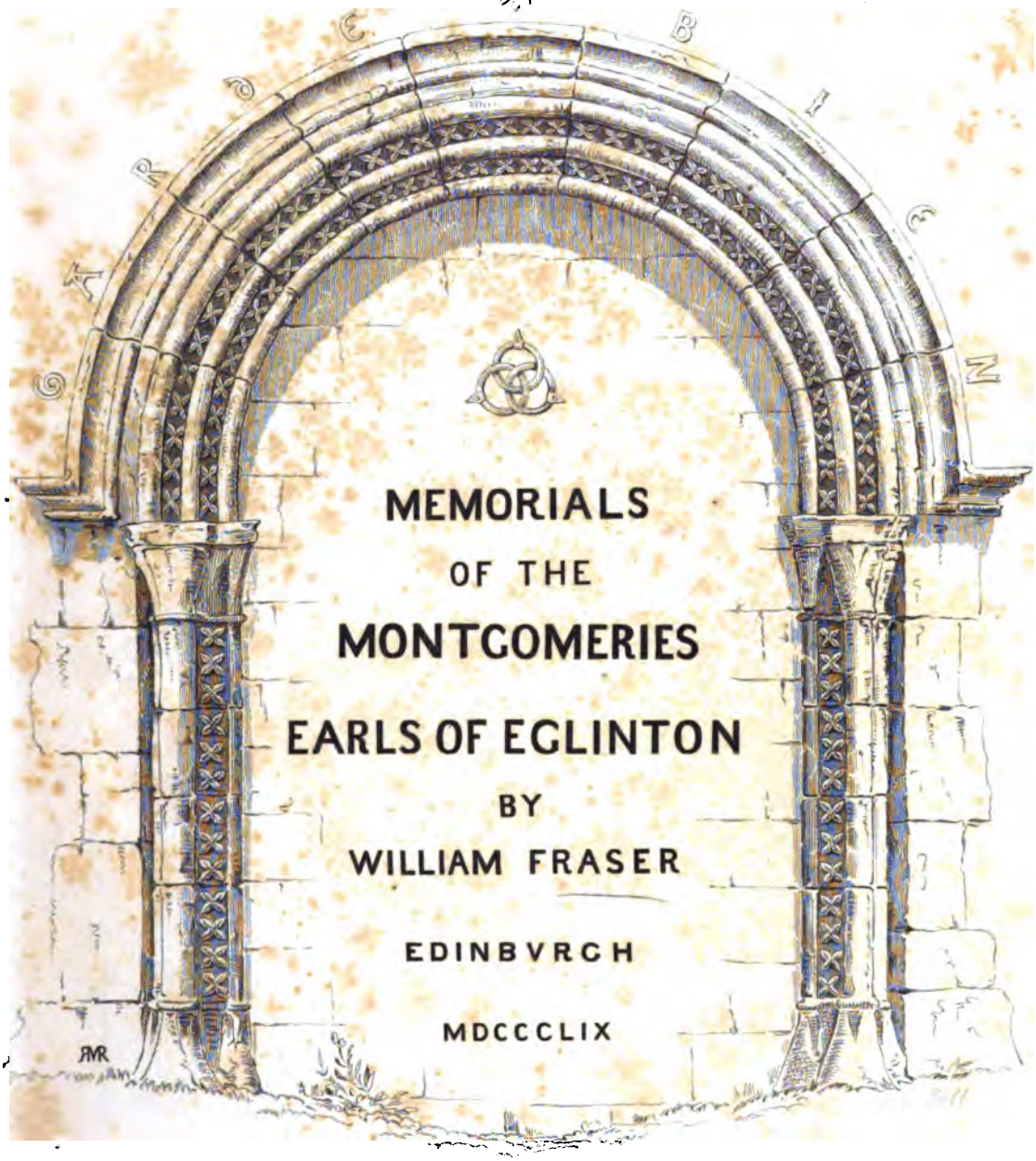

MEMORIALS
OF THE
MONTGOMERIES
EARLS OF EGLINTON
BY
WILLIAM FRASER

EDINBVRGH

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Montgomery Erle of eglintonn

FROM THE "BOOKE AND REGISTER OF ARMES DONE BY

SIR DAVID LINDESAY OF THE MONTH LYONE KING OF ARMES" A.D. 1542.

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PREFACE.

Some years ago the Editor of this Work being employed in a peerage case then in dependence, was allowed, by the courtesy of the Earl of Eglinton, to make a professional examination of the contents of his charter room. These consisted generally of the feudal investitures of the old family estates, comprising Eglinton, Eagleshame and Ardrossan, to which had been added, from time to time, the investitures of the estates of Dundonald, Kilmaurs, Glasford and Southennan, acquired by the ninth Earl; and those of Coilsfield, Skelmorlie and Bourtriehill, brought from their respective repositories after the accession of the Coilsfield branch of the Montgomeries to the earldom in 1796. The charter room further contained an extensive collection of miscellaneous papers, public and private, and all were in a state of the greatest confusion — no arrangement of them having ever been made.

When this state of his muniments was brought under the notice of Lord Eglinton, he gave instructions that the whole should be carefully arranged and catalogued. This has since been done, and many of the more valuable papers have been inlaid and bound in Volumes. His Lordship also directed that a selection from the papers should be printed, and this forms

the greater portion of the present volumes. The first volume is divided into two parts: the first part contains a Memoir of the main line of the Montgomerie family, and of its three branches of Coilsfield, Annick Lodge and Skelmorlie: the second part consists of a selection from the Correspondence. The second volume contains a selection from the Charters and Family Papers.

THE MEMOIR.

The Memoir of the family of Montgomerie has been divided into the following heads: — the Montgomeries in Normandy and in England; the Montgomeries in Scotland to the first Lord Montgomerie; the Lords Montgomerie before the creation of the Earldom of Eglinton; the Earls of Eglinton of the House of Montgomerie; the Earls of the House of Seton, and the Branches of the Montgomerie family.

The Earl of Eglinton now represents the four families of Montgomerie of Eagleshame, Seton, Eglinton of Eglinton, and Ardrossan of Ardrossan. Sir John Montgomerie of Eagleshame, then chief of the Montgomeries, who was descended from Robert Montgomerie, the first of Eagleshame, married the heiress of Sir Hugh de Eglinton, and acquired with her the estates of Eglinton and Ardrossan. From Sir John descended the first Lord Montgomerie, who also inherited his estates. This Lord Montgomerie was the ancestor of the first Earl of Eglinton, from whom descended the fifth Earl, the last of the direct male line of Montgomerie. The fifth Earl, having no children, selected as his successor his cousin-german, Sir Alexander Seton, a younger son of the Earl of Winton by Lady Margaret Montgomerie. Sir Alexander took the name and arms of Montgomerie, and got from the Crown a patent of the Earldom of

Eglinton, with precedence as sixth Earl.[1] This Earl was popularly called Greysteel. After his death the succession is unbroken until we come to the tenth Earl, who was succeeded by his brother Archibald, the eleventh Earl, on whose death without male issue, the titles and estates devolved upon his cousin, Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield, who succeeded as twelfth Earl. The eldest son of the twelfth Earl having predeceased him, the present Earl succeeded to his grandfather as thirteenth Earl; with a brief notice of whom the Memoir of the main line closes.

There is documentary evidence of all the material facts in the following Memoir, from the earliest appearance of the family of Montgomerie in Scotland, but it is not very abundant until after the time of the first Earl, who received a charter from the Crown, which sets forth that the family papers had been destroyed by fire, and that it was intended to supply their loss. From the date of this charter the incidents relating to each member of the family can be ascertained with tolerable precision. When statements are based on Family Papers which are not printed in these volumes, a particular reference is given.

THE BRANCHES.

To the Memoir of the family is added an account of the three Branches; Montgomerie of Coilsfield, which supplied a successor

[1] After the Memoir had been printed off, David Laing, Esq. of the Signet Library, kindly communicated to the Editor the following holograph letter by the seventh Earl of Eglinton, inviting a relative to the funeral of the sixth Earl:—'Eglintone, 22 January 1661. My 'Lord, having now resolved to inter my father's 'corps wpon Fursday the 14th of Febuary, and 'it being my last deuty to have them accompanied with our honorable frends, my ernest 'desyr is, that your lordship will be plessed to 'come here to Eglintone the night befor; and 'your lordship shall further ingage, my Lord,

'Your lordship's most affectionate humble 'servitor,

'EGLINTON.'

'To the right honourable the 'Earl of Linlithgow.'

to the titles and estates in the person of Hugh the twelfth Earl; Montgomerie of Annick Lodge, which is the latest sprung from the main line; and Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, now represented by Lord Eglinton through an heiress. These three branches are so closely connected with the main line, that a memoir of it would scarcely be complete without some account of them. It might have been interesting to have traced out some other branches of the family, but this could not have been done satisfactorily without increasing these volumes to an unreasonable size.

In printing the Letters and Charters, the object of the Editor has been to give the text of the original writs as accurately as possible. But many of the Charters and other papers are in Latin, and in accordance with the practice of the period in which they were written, the words are frequently contracted. Such words have been printed at full length. In the original documents the punctuation is often defective and erroneous, and the use of capital letters capricious. In printing, the punctuation has been corrected, and the modern usage in regard to capital letters has been followed. With these exceptions no alterations have been made. The spelling, however different in many cases from that now in use, has been preserved throughout, so that the print gives a faithful representation of the original documents. To the Letters in the first volume, and to the Charters in the second volume, there is prefixed a comprehensive Abstract of the writs.

All the documents now printed are in the charter room at Eglintoun, with the exception of certain illustrative charters and letters. The custodiers of these, are named in the respective Abstracts in each volume; and where no custody is stated, it is

to be understood that the original writs are in the Eglinton charter-chest.

The Letters. The Letters, which form the second part of the first volume, contain much interesting information on public and private affairs, from the middle of the sixteenth down to the early part of the present century. During the period of the religious struggle in Scotland,[1] Alexander the sixth Earl of Eglinton was a zealous Covenanter. He held a high command in the covenanting army, and greatly distinguished himself both in the field and at the council board. His sons Hugh and Robert, both men of great military talent, fought side by side with him in the wars between the King and the Covenanters, and the correspondence to which their position gave rise between them and their families and friends, their brother officers and generals, is very important. Nearly one half of the whole Correspondence refers to the period of the sixth Earl's active public life, and contains much information regarding the motives and movements of many of the leading men of his time, including Generals Monck and Leslie, Lord Fairfax, the Marquis of Argyle, and many others.

Metrical romances are pleasant reading; but if accepted as guides in historical research, they are apt to mislead those who trust in them. A deservedly popular writer, founding on the ballad of 'Johnnie Faa,' has constructed a romantic story in reference to Lady Jane Hamilton, Countess of Cassillis.[2] How far he has been misled, may be judged of from two letters printed in this volume. The story, as told by Mr. Chambers, is, that John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, a stern Covenanter, married

[1] It is much to be regretted that no good history of this period has yet appeared.

[2] Picture of Scotland by Robert Chambers. Small 8vo. Edinburgh, 1837, vol. i. p. 294.

Lady Jane Hamilton, daughter of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington. Lady Jane herself had not much to say as to the match, and her affections were neglected. She had been previously beloved by a gallant young knight, a Sir John Faa of Dunbar, who had perhaps seen her at her father's seat of Tyninghame, which is not more than three miles from the town. When several years were come and gone, and Lady Cassillis had brought her husband three children, this passion led to a dreadful catastrophe. Her lover, seizing an opportunity when the Earl was attending the Assembly of Divines at Westminster, came to Cassillis Castle disguised as a gipsy, and induced the Countess to elope. The Earl, however, returned in time to overtake the Countess and her paramour, who, with certain accomplices, was hanged on the 'Dule tree' in front of the Castle, the Countess being made an unwilling witness of the execution. She was afterwards imprisoned during the remainder of her life in the family mansion in Maybole, the Earl in the meantime marrying another wife. Several circumstantial details are given by the writer as evidence of the story, which, with so many accessories, wears an appearance of reality. In another work, the same writer alludes to this lady, as 'the repudiated 'Countess of Cassillis.'[1]

Mr. Chambers' picture is chiefly drawn from a previous one in a periodical magazine,[2] in which it is stated that it is not now possible to fix the precise date of Lady Cassillis' elopement with the gypsie laddie. It is certain that she lived long enough in her confinement at Maybole to work a piece of tapestry still

[1] Gazetteer of Scotland, 1846, p. 761.

[2] The Scots Magazine for 1817. Archibald Constable & Co. Edinburgh, p. 306.

preserved at Culzean House, in which she represented her unhappy flight, but with circumstances unsuitable to the details of the ballad, and as if the deceits of glamour had still bewildered her memory; for she is mounted behind her lover gorgeously attired, on a superb white courser, and surrounded by a group of persons who bear no resemblance to a herd of tatterdemallion gipsies.[1]

This well-dressed story runs through many later works, and as usual, it loses nothing in its course. The town's people of Maybole are said to assume looks of solemn mystery when turning a stranger's attention to the building, and tell strange traditions respecting the lady and her days of duresse.[2] Stripped of all the romance, what is the real truth of this Maybole mystery? John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, was married to Lady Jane Hamilton in December 1621, their contract of marriage being dated the 21st of that month.[3] The Earl and Countess of Cassillis lived together as man and wife, at bed and board, for twenty-one years — that is, until her death. This is proved by a letter from the Earl to Lord Eglinton intimating her death, and inviting the latter to her funeral. He says — 'It hath pleaseit the Almightie to call my 'deir bedfellow from this valley of tearis to her home (as herselff 'in hir last wordis called it').[4] Lord Eglinton replies in terms of sympathy, which entirely preclude any supposition of serious disagreement between Lord Cassillis and his lady.

Moreover, a letter was addressed by the Earl of Cassillis, shortly after the death of his wife, to the Rev. Robert Douglas,

[1] In the same magazine, a print is given of Lady Cassillis, taken from her original portrait at Culzean House.

[2] Parliamentary Gazetteer of Scotland. A. Fullarton & Co. Edinburgh, 1851, 8vo., ii. 340.

[3] Contemporary copy Contract of Marriage in Haddington Charter-chest; Historical Account of the Family of Kennedy, Marquis of Ailsa, &c. Edinburgh, 1849, 4to. p. 44.

[4] Vol. i. No. 134.

in which he expresses great respect and tenderness for t memory of the Countess Jane, which is quite inconsistent wi the story of her elopement with the Gipsy King.[1]

The death of the Countess took place in 1642. It was n until the following year that the Earl of Cassillis attended t Westminster Assembly of Divines;[2] and his marriage with h second wife, Margaret Hay, took place in 1644 — the contra being executed on the 20th February of that year, at the Scot league at Heighton in England.[3]

These facts destroy the picture drawn by Mr. Chambers o Johnnie Faa and the Countess of Cassillis. Instead of bein kept as a prisoner in Maybole while the Earl took to himsel another wife, Lady Jane Hamilton was 'his deir bedfellow' up t the day of her death, and he did not marry again until two years after that event. She could not have eloped with Johnnie Faa while her husband was at Westminster, for the best of all reasons, that she was in her grave a year before the Earl went to Westminster in 1643.

This is a good proof of the value of preserving papers such as those contained in the present work. The fair fame of a lady had been tarnished by a romantic story, founded on the misapplication of a popular ballad. Her character is now cleared by the unerring testimony of contemporary writings.

It is curious to remark the contrast between the modes of travelling in old times and in the present day. In midsummer of the year 1619, the sixth Earl of Eglinton, when about to return from Seton to Eglinton, wrote to his wife and requested

[1] Parliamentary Gazetteer of Scotland. A. Fullarton & Co. 8vo. 1851, p. 216.

[2] Wood's Peerage, vol. i. p. 216.

[3] History of the Kennedys, supra, p. 44.

her to send her 'kotche and horsis eist to me efter the reset 'of this, and kaus sax of the ablest tennentis coum with hir to 'Glasgow, to pout hir by all the stratis and dangeris.'[1] Tenants of the present day would be somewhat surprised if called on to assist their landlord on his travels; and if one did travel by road from Glasgow to Eglinton, there are not now many places where he could require their assistance. In the summer of the preceding year, the Earl had written thirty-three letters with all diligence to his friends to meet him at Bishop-Briggs, obviously that they might assist him on his journey from Seton to Eglinton.[2]

A few years earlier the Countess of Eglinton applied to her mother, the Countess of Linlithgow, for the loan of carriage horses to bring her carriage from Craigiehall to Linlithgow. Although this was but a short distance, the Countess of Linlithgow promised to send a dozen of horse along with 'hochemes, creills, 'and tedderis,' in lieu of 'tumeler cairtis.'[3] The roads must have been very bad with 'stratis and dangeris.'

THE CHARTERS.

The Charters and Family Papers in the second volume embrace the period between the years 1170 and 1728. They are all chronologically arranged, except in a few instances, where the connection between documents has made it more convenient that they should be placed together. A full description of these papers is to be found in the Abstract prefixed to them; but it may not be out of place to direct the reader's attention to some of the more remarkable.

[1] Vol. i. No. 68.

[2] Vol. i. No. 61.

[3] Vol. i. No. 26. Even so late as the year 1755, the Edinburgh stage coach was advertized to go to London in ten days in summer, and twelve days in winter; and this was after being altered, as the advertisement states, to a new genteel two-end glass machine, hung on steel springs, exceeding light and easy. (The Caledonian Mercury, No. 5258, August 21, 1755.)

The remission granted in 1488 by James IV. to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, for the destruction of a neighbour's castle, and for other offences committed by him, illustrates the state of the country towards the end of the fifteenth century, and shows how easily an act of private injustice could be atoned for by personal service rendered to the king.[1] An interesting instance of one of the modes of healing the feuds so prevalent between powerful families during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, is to be found in the decreet-arbitral pronounced in 1530 by Robert Bishop of Argyle, and others, between Hugh, first Earl of Eglinton, and Robert Boyd and Mungo Muir of Rowallane.[2]

The relation which subsisted between the King and nobility is illustrated by the licence granted by James V. to William Montgomerie of the Stane and Robert Hunter of Hunterstoun, to remain at home from the war on account of their age and infirmities, on condition of their sending their eldest sons, with their retainers, in their stead.[3]

Of the relative positions occupied by the nobility and the inferior proprietors of the soil, good illustrations are afforded by the bonds of manrent, binding the granters to assist the holders against every one except the Crown.

The nomination by the Estates of Scotland of the Earls of Argyle, Crawfurd and Lothian, Sir James Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and others, as Commissioners, to treat for a union of Scotland with England in 1689;[4] and the instructions of the Estates to the Earl of Argyle, Sir James Montgomerie of Skel-

[1] Vol. ii. No. 60, p. 48. This remission affords evidence that the battle of Sauchieburn was fought on St. Barnabas' day (11th June) 1488. Historians have differed widely as to the exact day of the battle. [2] Vol. ii. No. 118, p. 110. [3] Vol. ii. No. 134, p. 127. [4] Ib. No. 254, p. 341.

morlie, and Sir John Dalrymple, as Commissioners to attend William and Mary, with an offer of the Scottish Crown in 1689,[1] are valuable historical documents.

The indenture between Hugh Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Ardes in Ireland, and Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglinton, which was entered into in the year 1630, is a document of an unusual nature. The Viscount wished to secure the assistance of the Earl in the disturbed state of Ireland, whilst the Earl was anxious to secure himself against any doubt that might be raised of his being the head of the house of Eglinton; the Viscount being directly descended from Robert Montgomerie of Braidstaine, uncle of the first Earl of Eglinton.

This indenture is beautifully engrossed on vellum, as may be seen from the fac-simile of it which is in the second volume. At the top, there are two portraits which may have been intended to represent the Earl and the Viscount. Fortunately for the Earl, an original portrait of him has been preserved,[2] and shows, that in his case the illuminator was not a very faithful limner; it is to be hoped, that as little justice has been done to the Viscount.

Early Marriage Contracts.

The present collection is rich in early and interesting contracts of marriage. Many of these contracts show that the alliances were formed not on account of the favour and affection which betrothed spouses should be supposed to entertain towards each other, but for other and less tender considerations. They occasionally contain provisions regarding matters which appear entirely foreign to their nature. Thus the contract for the marriage of Sir Robert Cuninghame to Anny, daughter of

[1] Vol. ii. No. 255, p. 342.

[2] Vol. i. p. 381.

Sir John Montgomerie, which is written in Scotch, and dated 16th June 1425, contains a provision in reference to the ransom of James I. of Scotland from his captivity at the English Court. It is provided, that if Sir John Montgomerie does not go as hostage for the King, he shall entertain his daughter and her husband in meat and drink for two years. But that if he does go, the husband shall himself provide for his wife.[1]

An indenture, dated thirteen years later, also written in Scotch, provides for the marriage of John Stewart, son of Alan Stewart of Darnley, with Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Montgomerie. Failing John, it is provided that the next son of Alan shall marry Margaret, and failing her, the next daughter of Alexander; and so forth until a marriage be completed between a son and daughter of either party.[2] Absurd as such prospective arrangements may now appear, they were frequent between powerful families in the feudal ages. In a contract dated 1st June 1498, Hew Lord Montgomerie and Sir Archibald Edmonston of Duntreith, engage that John Master of Montgomerie shall marry Bessy Edmonston, daughter of Sir Archibald; and if either of them dies before marriage, Lord Montgomerie binds his second, third, and fourth sons in succession; and failing Bessy, then Katern, Margaret, and Helen, are all bound in succession to marry a son of Lord Montgomerie.[3] Similar provisions are contained in another contract for the marriage of a son of the first Earl of Eglinton with one of the two daughters of his neighbour, the Laird of Stane.[4] There is a second matrimonial agreement of a similar nature between the houses of Eglinton and Lennox in 1519,[5] and a similar one be-

[1] Vol. ii. No. 7, p. 8.
[2] Vol. ii. No. 37, p. 28.
[3] Vol. ii. No. 65, p. 52.
[4] Ib. No. 83, p. 68.
[5] Vol. ii. No. 104, p. 88.

tween the Regent Arran and the second Earl of Eglinton, in 1545, for the marriage of their children, born and to be born, or as it is expressed in the contract—'Lord Eglinton's son sall marry and 'compleit matrimony with any uther of my said Lord Gover- 'nouris lauchfull dochteris that he now hes or happinis to get.'

There is a curious provision in the contract, in 1576, between Hugh Master of Eglinton, afterwards the fourth Earl, and Gelis, daughter of Lord Boyd, who were so young at the time of their marriage, that it was provided that they should get an 'honest 'man' to manage both them and their affairs.[1]

The next contract of marriage in this collection is a very brief one, as compared with the usual run of such documents. In it Patrick Lord Drummond and Dame Agnes Drummond, Countess Dowager of Eglinton, in 1585, simply promised to live together during their lives as married persons.[2] Both were well stricken in years, and the lady had already buried two husbands.

The last contract in the collection to be particularly alluded to, is one for the marriage of the young Earl of Eglinton with Gabriela Stewart, a cousin of King James VI. The king and the Lennox family appear to have been anxious to secure the young earl as a husband for the Lady Gabriela. But the contract was more rational than those of an earlier date, which rarely consulted the inclinations of the persons most interested, and the King undertakes to do all diligence to obtain the lady's consent. His diligence was unavailing, as the lady preferred becoming a nun.

Too much has, perhaps, been already said about the contents of the second volume; but, before dismissing the subject, a word or two must be devoted to those writs which refer to the picturesque

[1] Vol. ii. No. 185, p. 214.

[2] Vol. ii. No. 193, p. 225.

island of Little Cumbray, for the possession of which the neighbouring proprietors on the main land appear to have been very anxious, and the ownership changed hands several times during the minority of James V. This island was a royal forest, well stocked with deer and rabbits, and affording pasturage to a certain number of cattle. Hunter of Hunterstoun was hereditary forester, but was unable to prevent people trespassing on the island 'without supply and help.' On this ground the Regent Albany, in the name of the King, in 1515, granted a charter to the first Earl of Eglinton as 'fear, correkar, and supplear of the said 'ile of Littill Comeray.'[1] This charter was to endure until the

King was fifteen years of age. Under it Hunterstoun appears to have retained certain rights of pasturage, and in 1527, he procured a charter from the Crown, conferring upon him full possession of the island.[2] Notwithstanding this, the King seems shortly after to have conferred a grant of the island upon the eldest son of Lord Sempill; for, in an instrument dated 12th November 1534, he revokes such a grant, and confirms that formerly made to

[1] Vol. ii. No. 98, p. 84.

[2] Vol. ii. No. 113, p. 105.

Robert Hunter of Hunterstone,[1] who shortly after sold the island to the Earl of Eglinton, and made resignation of it in his favour in the hands of King James V., from whom the Earl obtained a charter dated 16th March 1535.[2] Since that time the Little Cumbray has continued the property of the Eglinton family, and has frequently served them as a place of refuge in troubled times.

It has generally been supposed that the cartulary of Kilwinning was preserved in the charter room at Eglinton Castle, but after a diligent search in that repository, it has not been found. In February 1591, Mr William Melville, commendator of the Abbey of Kilwinning, raised an action against Jean Blair, Lady Montgrenan, widow of Alexander Cuninghame, the former commendator, and James Cuninghame her son, and others, for delivery to him of the abbacy and the 'register buiks of the landis, 'fischeings, and utheris mortifiet to the said benefice, and of the 'infeftments, charters, tacks, rentals, and utheris titles, ... 'which are in the hands of Jean Blair, James Cuningham, John 'Blair of that ilk, and James Blair of Auchinyards, his tutors. 'And sicklike the foirsaid common seill of the Chaptour of Kil-'winning is in the hands of Dene James Mitchell, Thomas Iset, or 'then they had, hes, or hes fraudfully put the samen away.'[3] The defenders did not appear in the suit, and Melville so far departed from his original demand as to insist only for delivery of the abbacy and seal of chapter, and decree to this effect was pronounced against the defenders. Although the result of this action

[1] Vol. ii. No. 127, p. 121. James Stewart, natural son of James V., by Elizabeth Shaw, was Abbot of Kelso at this time. The King appears to have been residing at Kelso when this revocation was made. [2] Eglinton Writs. [3] Extract Decreet at Eglinton.

leads to the conclusion that the Cartulary of Kilwinning had even then gone amissing, some trace of its existence in later times appears in a letter, dated 25th December 1837, from Mr John Clarke, writer, Dalry, then employed to make local search for it, who states, that 'Mr Dobie, writer, Beith, informed him that he 'has it from undoubted authority, but the gentleman's name he 'did not at present recollect, that that gentleman actually saw 'the cartulary of Kilwinning Monastery within these forty years.'[1] No trace, however, of the cartulary has since been found either in the charter room or library at Eglinton.

Amongst the papers in the Eglinton charter room are numerous accounts from the time of the fifth Earl downwards; these would form a valuable volume if printed; but in the present work, space has only been found for two of these — an account of the chamberlain and a household account, both belonging to the time of the sixth Earl.[2] A few extracts are given from the others. In the account for crop 1617, there are several interesting entries:

For sevintene fute of rigingstane to the Castle of Ardrossan at vi^{s} viii^{d}
the fute — inde . . . . . v^{llb} xiii^{s} viii^{d}
For theiking of new wark in Gyffin . . . . . iiii^{llb}
For ten ky to putt in the horss Ile in anno 1617, at x^{llb} vi^{s} the
pece . . . . . i^{c} iii^{llb}
Geven to my Lady quhen scho raid to Southenane to my Lord
Sempill his bairne baptisme . . . . . xxxii^{llb} xiii^{s} iii i^{d}
Geven in drink siluer at my Lordis command to the men that carreit my Lord in to the horse Isle in May 1618 . . . xx^{s}
For leiding up i^{c} daillis fra the watersyde to my Lords hous in
Irwing, in May 1618 . . . . . xxiii^{s}

[1] Original Letter at Eglinton.

[2] Vol. ii. Nos. 210, 225, pp. 260, 295.

The account for crop 1618 contains these curious entries —

To the puir folk on the grene of Irwing the first of May at my Lady's command . . . . . xii^{s}
To the town pyper and drummer in Irwing, at command of my Lady . xl^{s}
To ane man wha had an beir in Eglinton, at my Lady's command . . xviii^{s}

The account for crop 1677 contains this entry —

Given to the hangman of Irvine, by a late order from my Lord Montgomerie, four bolls meal.

It appears from this and other accounts that the hangman received as large an allowance in money and meal as the schoolmaster. But if his duties were at this time as arduous as they were in the early part of the century, the office of the former functionary was less of a sinecure than that of the latter. The Sheriff of Haddingtonshire writes to a neighbour in 1616, that he had caused hang twenty-one criminals at Peebles in one day.[1] It is probable, however, that the glories of the office were already beginning to diminish, for, sixty years later, Susanna Countess of Eglinton had some difficulty in finding an executioner to hang one of her colliers who had come under the law.

Whilst the last officer of the law in Irvine was thus well cared for, the magistrates under whom he acted appear to have taken good care of themselves. When examining the burgh records some years ago, the Editor found several accounts for entertainment to the magistrates in the house of one Janet

[1] Original Letter at Tynninghame.

Garvan, in the year 1686. These accounts contain many entries similar to the following—

1686, January 23, Imprimis, the magistrates and some of the councel, 3 pynts of wyne, 1 pynt of aill, 1 gill of brandy, and 2s. 8d. for tobacco and pipes —inde	£3	6	8
25th, The magistrates and some gentlemen of Ayr, 3 pynts of wine, 1 gill of brandy, and 1 pynt of aill	3	4	0
30th, The magistrates and councel, when they were subscribing the tack betwixt my Lord Montgomerie and the town, 4 pynts of wyne, and for aill, brandy, tobacco and pipes	5	0	0
February 1. The magistrates, with Young Pearstoun, Old Broomlands, and Bryce Blair, and the clerk, and others, 5 pynts of wyne, and for tobacco and pipes and aill, 9s.	5	9	0
March 16. The magistrates, with Coilsfeld, Provost Boyle, and several others, the day after William M'Taggart's daughter was married, 7 pynts and 1 chopin of wyne, and for aill, bread, tobacco and pypes, 20s. 8d.	8	0	8
December 10. The Provost, Bailie Boyle, the clerk and others, with several other gentlemen, with some things that was debursed for defraying of some charges for Sir Robert Maxwell's burial .	4	6	0

The above are fair examples of the way in which the worthy magistrates transacted business, and celebrated passing events, whether happy or mournful, whether called on to rejoice at the marriage of a burgess' daughter, or to mourn at the burial of a neighbouring laird.

In the Eglinton Chamberlain accounts are found a few notices of the gradual falling of remaining portions of the Abbey of Kilwinning. Thus, in the account for the year 1734, there is a payment of one guinea to David Muir, mason in Irvine, for taking down a turret in the Abbey of Kilwinning, by the tutor's orders, which was like to fall and endanger the church; and another

payment of 9s. 6d. to George Caldwall, in Kilwinning, for a fir stick that supported said turret until it was undermined, and was then set fire to, to let the turret fall.[1]

Those who are interested in history, either general or local, will readily appreciate the value of such publications as the present; and it is matter of congratulation, that during the present century, great progress has been made in publishing the national records, as well as private family papers. The Record Commissioners have published several of the more valuable of the national records, such as the Acts of Parliament, the retours of service, and others which have been of the utmost utility. It is to be hoped that the remainder of the national records may yet be made available to the public in a similar manner. Through the labours of historical,

[1] In searching for the chartulary, several papers were found connected with the Abbey. One of these refers to a dispute between the abbot and the third Earl of Eglinton regarding the steeple. The following account of the uses to which it had been applied, is given in the answers for the earl to the summons of the abbot: — 'As to the said stepill, it is alto-'gether boyldit vpoun the bodie of the paroche 'kyrk of Kilwynning, fer distant from the queir 'and closter, swa that nane may haif pretext or 'collour to acclame the samin, onles it wer the 'parochin; quhairof I am ane, and vnder the 'Kyngis Maiestie hes the reule and comman-'deament of the remnant: and I and my pre-'decessouris, not onlie heritable baillies of the 'regality of Kilwinning, bot alswa of the realtie 'of Connynghame, hes euer in all tymes bygane, 'alsweill in this commendataris tyme as his pre-'decessouris, quhen abbayis wes in greitter ve-'neratioun, and mair sancttemony pretendit, 'had the said stepill for an ward and prisoun to 'poneis and keip malefactouris and presowneres 'quhairin the commoun bell hynggis, to be rung 'only at command of me or my deputis for con-'uenyng of the parochin and tenandis aither 'for the kyngis seruice, my particular, or as 'necessitie sall require: and in all tyme of 'trublis, alsweill of war aganis forane enemeis, 'ceveill tumolt, particular feidis or vther wayis, 'as my predicessouris and I thocht convenyent: 'Thai and I had euer the vse and keiping of the 'said stepill, mannit and fortefeit the samin, 'had our deputis and seruandis remanyng and 'dwelling thairin at our plesour, without any 'contradictioun: Lykeas we haif euir had als 'weill in this commendaturis tyme as his pre-'decessouris, the said haill abbay and every 'pairt thairof patent to ws, the principall hall 'and vnder places, as we plesit to hald our 'courttis, and for executioun of our office of 'bailliery, as occacioun seruit.'

antiquarian and literary clubs, much has been done in printing the chartularies of the old religious houses as well as the private charters of ancient families. The expense of printing is a great obstacle to the general publication of family muniments, but another has been ascribed as a bar to such works, in a review of one of the best of family biographies — the 'Lives of the Lindsays.' The writer says — 'The truth is, that a good history of a powerful house is no easy task to get accomplished. A private gentleman — peer or commoner — shrinks from the labour, even if he does not shrink from the expense.[1] And so stowed away in massive chests, continue to lie tons of parchments illustrative of the possessions, marriages, offices and deeds of his ancestors; the love letters of long dead generations; priceless documents of all kinds illustrative of the history of England. Indeed it is almost a hopeless task to get a peep into an evidence room, the instant suspicion being that you are going to set up a right to the estates. Nor is this wonderful, when we remember the absurd claims to honours, and the fraudulent claims to lands which are every day made by monomaniacs or swindlers.'[2] This feeling in regard to charter rooms is confined to England. The admirable system of registration of land rights, which was established in Scotland in the beginning of the seventeenth century, has completely removed any such jealousy. King James VI. attempted to introduce the same system into England. But it never extended beyond the two counties of

[1] Lord Egmont's 'History of the House of Yvery,' published in 1742, cost him £3000. The history itself was so ridiculous, says Horace Walpole, that Lord Egmont endeavoured to suppress all the copies. Mr Henry Drummond's magnificent work on the noble British families cost him £1000 for each family.

[2] Quarterly Review for March 1856, No. 196, p. 319.

Middlesex and York. Another attempt to supply this defect was made in the late session of Parliament. So much depending upon the custody of the original title-deeds when they have not the security of registration, English proprietors have a natural jealousy in allowing inspection of their muniments, which, however, have often to be delivered to those who lend money on estates.[1] A different and more liberal spirit prevails in Scotland, and has prevailed for a long period. In the preface to the history of the Stewarts, Mr. Andrew Stuart says—'No one ever met with more 'liberality and frankness in these respects than I have experienced 'in the course of this undertaking, no person having refused the 'papers in his possession upon being informed of the object of the 'request.' . . . . 'Such is the liberality which prevails in 'this island for giving every useful information in matters of this 'sort, that I am satisfied the most ready access would be given 'in all quarters to every paper or proof that could be specified as 'likely to be of use.'[2]

The experience of the Editor of these volumes is precisely the same as that of Mr. Stuart, and he may here appropriately acknowledge the liberality of those noblemen and gentlemen who have so readily given him access to their charter chests, or furnished him with documents from them. Mr. Stuart especially refers to the liberality of the Duke of Montrose and Sir John

[1] In reference to this practice of delivering title-deeds with a mortgage, it was once remarked of an English landed proprietor, that his credit was questionable as his parchments were not at home.

[2] Mr. Stuart explains in his preface, that he undertook his work as a subject to occupy his attention without creating too much anxiety. He began in the year 1787 and finished in 1798 —thus occupying fully eleven years. The time was well bestowed, as his investigations led to the discovery in the archives of the Vatican of several very important dispensations which are given in his appendix.

Maxwell of Pollock in furnishing valuable documents for his work. The Editor, in like manner, is bound particularly to mention their descendants and worthy representatives, his Grace the present Duke of Montrose and the present Sir John Maxwell of Pollock-Maxwell, Baronet, for the kindness with which they have allowed him to make use of their charter chests.

The best acknowledgments of the Editor are also due to the Marquis of Abercorn, the Marquis of Ailsa, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Stair, Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart of Greenock and Blackhall, Baronet, Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Baronet, Sir Archibald Edmonstone of Duntreath, Baronet, Sir Graham Graham Montgomery of Stanhope, Baronet, M. P., William Stirling, Esquire of Keir, M. P., Andrew Fletcher, Esquire of Salton, and Charles Home Drummond Moray, Esquire of Abercairny, who have rendered available to the Editor many Charters, Letters, and other documents, which have contributed much towards the completion of these volumes, and of which some are fully printed among the Charters and Letters, whilst others are referred to in the Memoirs of the family.

Amongst those who have assisted the Editor in making use of the materials thus liberally supplied to him, his best thanks are due to Roger Montgomerie, Esquire, advocate, without whose co-operation these memorials of his ancestors would have been more imperfect than they now are. John Gilchrist Clark, Esquire of Speddoch, advocate, has also given valuable aid in the preparation of this work. For much information, the Editor is indebted to David Cowan, Esquire, one of the agents of the Eglinton family, who combines the character of an excellent man of business with that of an accurate antiquary.

Whilst the present castle of Eglinton was being built, the portraits of the family, which had been in the old castle, were removed to a loft in the gardener's house at Weirston. The house was accidentally burned, and the portraits perished in the conflagration. A number of authentic portraits from Auchans, Skelmorlie and elsewhere, have since been collected, and of these a selection has been lithographed for this work.

In addition to the portraits, the volumes are illustrated with views of the Castles of Eglinton, Skelmorlie, Ardrossan and Cumbray, the houses of Coilsfield, Auchans, Annick Lodge, Seagate and Stane; and also with charters and letters in fac-simile, armorial bearings, wood-cuts of seals and signatures, and other matters which seemed worthy of preservation.

The counties of Ayr and Renfrew, to which the present collection of papers has especial reference, have been already more fully illustrated than many other districts. Crawford's History of Renfrewshire has reached a third edition; and the works of Robertson, Paterson and others, on Ayrshire, are very useful county histories. The more recent publication of 'The Caldwell Papers,' by Colonel Mure, is a highly important work, and has formed the subject of an able article in the Quarterly Review for September 1856. Timothy Pont's topographical account of Cuninghame, lately edited by Mr. Fullarton of Overton for the Maitland Club, is another valuable contribution to local history.

Colonel Mure of Caldwell, and William Stirling, Esquire of Keir, who has lately printed his family papers, have already set a good example to the gentlemen of Scotland. In printing and circulating this collection of family papers, the Earl of Eglinton is the first Scottish nobleman who has opened up his

charter room and made its contents available to the public. It is to be hoped other noblemen and gentlemen, who are the custodiers of ancient and interesting documents, will follow these examples. By so doing they will apply their charter evidence to the highest use of which it is capable; and while others will derive benefit from the information thus disclosed, the owners of the charters will take the most effectual means of preserving the evidence contained in their repositories.

WILLIAM FRASER.

EDINBURGH, *July* 1859.

ABSTRACT OF THE LETTERS.

LETTERS FROM KING JAMES VI. CHARLES I. AND II.

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1. King James VI. to the Earl of Eglintoun and the Lord Boyd, requesting them to use their endeavours to settle the controversy between the sons of the Lord Vchiltre and the sons and kin of the deceased Charles Mowat. Stirling Castle, 2nd July 1579..... 169

2. King James VI. to Alexander, first Earl of Linlithgow, promising, in the event of a suitable marriage for the Earl's daughter, to pay her dower. Whitehall, 11th December 1605, 170

3. King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Oliphant, Lord Advocate, requiring them to cause Sir Alexander Montgomerie resign in their presence, and deliver to them in writing a sufficient resignation of the title and dignity of Earl of Eglintoun. Newmarket, 21st January 1615 170

4. King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Olyphant, Lord Advocate, acknowledging the receipt of a copy of Sir Alexander Montgomerie's demission of the title and dignity of Earl of Eglintoun; and requesting them to examine whether any addition to it be necessary to render it valid in law. Whitehall, 27th February 1615, 170

5. King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Olyphant, Lord Advocate, requesting them to expede a new infeftment to Sir Alexander Montgomerie, of the title and dignity of Earl of Eglintoun, according to his Majesty's signature thereof. Whitehall, 27th February 1615..... 171

6. King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, requesting him to deliver to Sir Alexander Montgomerie his Majesty's new infeftment in his favour, of the title and dignity of Earl of Eglintoun, in presence of five or six of the Lords of Secret Council. Whitehall, 27th February 1615..... 172

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7. King James VI. to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, granting him permission to hawk and kill all sorts of fowls, excepting partridges and moorfowls; and to hunt hares with raches but not with greyhounds. Hinchingbrooke, 19th October 1616 173

8. King Charles I. (address wanting) recommending the election of the Lairds of Pollock Maxwell and Blackhall as commissioners of the shire for attending the ensuing parliament. Oatekin, 29th August 1627 173

9. King Charles I. to the Lord Semple, promising him 3000 acres of land in Connaught in Ireland, as compensation for the surrender of his offices of Sheriff of Renfrew and Bailie of Paislay; and 1000 acres to Bryce Semple of Cathcart, for his services as a valuator of tithes. Whitehall, 19th January 1636..... 174

10. King Charles I. to Hugh Lord Montgomery, requiring him forthwith to repair to Court on business of State and private business. Whitehall, 22nd March 1639 174

11. King Charles I. to the Commissioners of Exchequer in Scotland, commanding them to expede a signature of the heritable Sheriffship of Renfrew and Bailiery of Paisley, in favour of Robert Lord Ross. Hamptoun, 7th December 1647 174

12. King Charles II. to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, requesting him to assist James Fleming in the recovery of his vessel and goods taken from him at sea. Sterlyne, 24th May (1651), 175

13. King Charles II. to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, requesting him to lend four 'greate gunns,' with carriages and fifty shot for them, to Captain Jhon Bartlett. Sterlyne, 3rd June 1651, 176

14. Declaration by King Charles II. in favour of Hugh Lord Montgomerie, relative to the new levy of men out of his lands. Sterlin, 30th July 1651 176

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15. Sir John Mure of Callwall, Knight, to Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, relative to the result of his application to the Regent for an extension of his assurance. 10th May 1569 177

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16. Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to the Laird of Nethir Pollok, relative to the payment of an annualrent due to the latter from certain of the Earl's lands. 2nd November 1576. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*) 178

17. Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. John M'Calzeane, relative to the letters raised at the instance of Archibald Lorimer and Johnne Mur, notaries, against the Abbot of Kylwinning. Irvin, 7th December 1584 179

18. Neill Montgomerie of Langschaw, to John Maxwell of Nether Pollok, recommending that the latter should write to my Lord of Mortoune, to prepare his lordship for fulfilling his part of the contract between them. Irwin, 30th December 1584. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*)..... 179

19. Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. John M'Calzeane, transmitting certain writs to be produced, if necessary, in the defences made by the Earl against the summons raised by the Duik of Levenox relative to the right of the former to the lands of Torbolton. Irving, 7th February 1584 179

20. Patrick Maxvell of Neverk, to the Laird of Nether Pollok, requesting the 'laine of ane 'cwpple of hagbitis.' Newark, 27th January 1585. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*) 180

21. Andrew Semple of Bruntshiels, to his nephew, the Lord Semple, expressing his approval of his lordship's intended journey to Flanders, and promising to direct two 'Spanische bledis' as requested. Madrid, 16th March 1611..... 180

22. Alexander, first Earl of Linlythgow, to his daughter, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, informing her that he intended, if his health permitted, to go to Edinburgh to use his endeavours for the furtherance of her husband's affairs. Linlithgow Palace, 1st November 1612..... 181

23. Dame Grissall Roos, Lady Keir, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, soliciting her to procure a situation for her nephew, 'Lady Carnebeis sone,' in the service of her husband the Earl. Ochiltrie, 5th November 1612 182

24. Anna Countess of Eglintoune to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, while at Court, informing him of the state of his affairs at home, etc. Setoune, 11th November 1612..... 182

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25. Margaret Lady Setoun, Countess Dowager of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, her son, recommending that he should not return from Court without seeing his Majesty; and giving him an account of his business at home. Edinburgh, 19th November 1612 183

26. Eleanor Countess of Linlithgow to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter, informing her that 'ane doson of hors' were to be sent to Craigiehall, to convey her effects thence. Linlythgow Palice, 24th November 1612 184

27. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, declining to visit the latter, on account of ill health. Wastnidrie, 17th April 1613 184

28. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Lords of Privy Council, transmitting for their examination the writs in virtue of which he held his title and dignity, as well as his lands, lordships and other possessions. (May 1613.) (*Melros Papers*, vol. i. p. 115) 185

29. The Lords of Privy Council to King James VI. informing his Majesty that Sir Alexander Seytoun had appeared before them by his uncle, Sir William Seytoun, and produced the infeftment and retour following thereupon in his favour, as heir of the last Earl of Eglinton, and declining to give any decision with reference to the validity of the Earl's claim. Edinburgh, 18th May 1613. (*Melros Papers*, vol. i. p. 113) 186

30. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, his wife, informing her that their brother and sister had been very ill; and that he would return home as soon as possible. Ponoun, 21st June (1613?) 187

31. Margaret Hay, Countess of Dunfermline, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, thanking her for favours received. Dalgatie, 17th September 1613 188

32. Sir William Seytoun of Kylesmure to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, informing her that he would visit her in a few days, having news of importance to communicate concerning the Earl her husband and herself; and recommending the Countess to write to the Queen and Lady Jane Drummond, requesting them to use their influence, the latter with the Queen, and the former with his Majesty, in favour of the Earl. (1613) 188

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33. Lady Jane Drummond to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, informing her that a commission had been sent down from Court to the Lords of Privy Council concerning the Earl her husband; and promising to use her influence at Court in his favour. 17th March 1613, 190

34. Lady Jane Drummond to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, requesting her to write to the Queen, thanking her Majesty for the honour she had done her in offering to stand godmother to her son, and apologising for the baptism of the child without her Majesty's being present, on account of its being sick. Bathe, 2nd June [1613?]..... 191

35. Lady Jane Drummond to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, enclosing a letter from the Queen in answer to one from the Countess. [No date] [1613?] 191

36. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to her sister-in-law, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, informing her that she had bespoken kids and lambs for the baptism of the Countess' son. Mostour, 16th August [1614?] 192

37. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, wherein she requests the latter to inform her whether Lady Roxburgh, her sister-in-law, had made any proposal to the Earl of Eglintoun relative to her or her daughter; and whether the Queen had spoken of her to the Earl when at Court. Mostour, 8th November 1614, 192

38. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to her sister-in-law, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, thanking her for a token of remembrance she had received from her. [No date] [c. 1614?] 193

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42. Alexander Earl of Dunfermline to King James VI. expressing his grateful thanks to his

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Majesty for granting to his nephew, Sir Alexander Setoun, the honour and dignity of Earl of Eglintoun. Edinburght, 16th March 1615 195

43. Alexander Earl of Dunfermline to John Murray of Lochmaben, one of the bedchamber to King James VI., expressing his obligation to him for having used his influence at Court in favour of the Earl of Eglintoun. Edinburgh, 16th March 1615 196

44. Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, her son, advising him to proceed with caution and prudence relative to a slaughter allegod to have been committed by the Laird of Rowallane and the Earl's bailie officer. Setoun, 13th April [1615?] 196

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47. Anna Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, informing him that she was going to Eglintoun on the following day to see their children. Comarnald, Wednesday 198

48. Anna Countess of Eglintoun to the Earl, her husband, acknowledging receipt of £200 from him; telling him that she expects her delivery about Martinmas; and mentioning that the King had caused an investigation to be instituted relative to the death of Mr. Overbury, in the Tower, who was supposed to have been poisoned at the instigation of the Chamberlain, and the Lady Suffolk, his mother-in-law. Setoun, 21st October 1615, 199

49. Lady Margaret Levingstoun (afterwards Countess of Wigtoun), to her sister Anna, Countess of Eglintoun, stating that she cannot take into her service a gentlewoman recommended to her by the Countess. Callender, 10th April 1616 199

50. Lady Margaret Levingstoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her sister, expressing regret that she was unable to visit her, on account of a swelling in her face. [No date] ... 200

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51. James Leuingstoune (afterwards first Earl of Calendar) to Anna Countess of Eglintoune, his sister, stating that he was very much in want of money; and that he had written to his father to settle his estate shortly. Thetfoord, 4th May 1616 200

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53. Anna Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, expressing a wish to visit the latter in her own house. Setoun, 8th September 1617 201

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55. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, expressing regret that the state of the latter's health did not admit of her visiting the former. Setoun, 9th December 1617 203

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57. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, in which, alluding to his Majesty having summoned her brother, the Earl, to Court, she expresses the hope that it might result in good to them both. [No date] 204

58. Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, wherein she apologises for keeping so long two books which she had in loan from the latter, and which she intended to have been returned by her daughter, on the occasion of the Master of Eglintoun's marriage. [No date]..... 205

59. Paull Hammyltone, Captain of Arran, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, stating that he had delivered to his lordship's falconer and Neill Montgumery, of the isle of Cumray, the Earl's hawk, which had been discovered and taken in Arran a month before. 15th February 1618..... 206

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60. Margaret Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, attributing the colds and fevers of the children of the latter to 'evill governament.' Setoun, 27th March 1618 206

61. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstoun, his countess, stating that his father and mother, and the Lord Fleming and others, would sup at Eglintoun on Saturday next; and informing her of the death of her nephew Christopher. Setoun, 30th June 1618, 207

62. Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to her daughter-in-law, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, in which she expresses her satisfaction that the latter had got a young wet nurse to her daughter Ellinor. Setoun, 13th November 1618 207

63. Anna Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, wherein she mentions that she had lately been residing at Errol, and had there met with her sister-in-law, Lady Hay. Setoun, 24th November 1618 208

64. Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, thanking her for a present of herrings, and stating that she had purchased some lint in Edinburgh for the latter; mentioning also that the Queen was said to be recovering from a dangerous illness. Setoun, 22nd December 1618 208

65. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, as to an exchange of dogs proposed by the latter; and mentioning the 'most deplorable death 'of the Queenes Maiestie.' Seytoun, 10th March 1619 209

66. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstoun, his countess, wherein he mentions that her brother, Lord Livingstoun, had gone to Court along with his father-in-law; and that the King was recovered from a dangerous swelling in his leg, which had threatened his life. Setoun, 4th April 1619 209

67. John Lord Fleming to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his lordship's favour to his aunt, Lady Cunynghamheid, anent some teinds pertaining to the lands of Cunynghamheid or Pokellie. Cumbernald, 21st April 1619 209

68. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstone, his countess, informing her that

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their son Hugh was getting better of the small pox; and requesting her to send the carriage to Setoun to convey him and some relatives to Eglintoun. Setoun, 14th July 1619 210

69. Eleanor Countess of Linlithgow to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter, requesting her to send to Callender with the bearer some fine bed-linen and silver plate, as 'My Lord Duik' was to be there on the day following. Callender, 19th August 1619, 210

70. Alexander, first Earl of Linlithgow, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, his daughter, sending her the portrait of her son Alexander, who was living with him. Callender, 6th December 1619 211

71. Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, requesting her not to attempt travelling till her health should be re-established; and enjoining resignation under a recent bereavement. Setoun, 9th April 1620 211

72. Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, expressing the hope of seeing her at Callender with her husband, the Earl; and mentioning that Colonel Gray, with his captains and men, were to leave for Bohemia on the 20th of the month. Setoun, 19th May 1620..... 212

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74. Marion Boyd, Countess of Abercorn, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting him to send his coachman and one or two of his carriage horses to her, on Friday or Saturday following. Blakistoun, 3rd June 1620..... 213

75. Robert Setoun, servant to Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, mentioning that the Earls of Roxburch, Erroll, Dumfries, Latherdaill and others, commissioners, had gone to Court, and that the Marquis (of Hamilton) was confidently expected at Haleruidhous on the 30th April; stating the

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terms of boarding with the teacher at Prestonpans; and mentioning that Sir Robert Hepburne died on the 4th April, and was to be buried on the 15th. Tranent, 9th April 1620 213

76. Robert Setoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun mentioning that Henry Setoun had not 'poutit the gud wyf of the myll her siluer;' and that Sir John Setoun's lady had given birth to a son on the 12th instant. Setoun, 19th June [c. 1620 ?] 214

77. Robert, second Lord Melvill, to James, fifth Lord Ross, his son-in-law, wherein, with reference to an intended journey by the Lady Melvill, his mother, to visit him, he requests his son to write to her ladyship, dissuading her from undertaking it on account of her ill health. Monimiell, 8th October 1622 215

78. Sir William Setoun of Kylismvre to his nephew, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him of the intention of George, third Earl of Wintoun, brother of the latter, to marry the only daughter of the Lord Herries, who, he assured his lordship, was 'ane good 'lyke gentilwoman.' Edinburgh, 3rd June 1624 216

79. Robert Setoun, servant to Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, on the above 'matche': assuring him that the lady was very comely, modest, and about twenty-one years of age: that her provision for terce and conjunctfee was Wintoun, Newmains, and the teind of the Westfield of Tranent, reckoned at 40 chalders victual, etc.: and that the Earl's condition of tocher was 20,000 merks. [4th June 1624] 216

80. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, wherein, inter alia, he mentions the news from Court, viz. — that the King (Charles I.) had resolved to remove the Queen's French favourites, and send them back to France; and that Lord Carreltone had been despatched to that Court to explain his Majesty's reasons for this step: that the Duchess of Bukinghame, the Marchioness of Hamiltoun, etc., had been sworn ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber: and that the Spaniards were said to be making preparations for an invasion of Scotland by sea and land. Colledge, 17th August 1626 217

81. Lady Margaret Levingstoune to her sister Anna Countess of Eglintoun, stating that she

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expected a visit from the latter, and the Earl, her husband. Commernald, 12th August 1627 218

82. Sir William Setoun of Kylesmure to his nephew, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, wherein, after expressing regret that the infirmities of age prevented him from being of service to his friends, and mentioning that he expected a visit from the Earl of Wintoun, he alludes to the questions in dispute between the King and the Parliament; and annexes a copy of the form of procedure of Parliament, upon the occasion of presenting to his Majesty the Petition of Rights. Hadingtoun, 15th June 1628 218

83. Sir William Setoun of Kylesmure to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, giving a detailed account of a long interview with Sir Robert Carr (of Ancrum), during which Sir Robert indicated the modified course which his Majesty (Charles I.) intended to adopt with reference to the Barons and others who held their lands of the Crown by defective titles; and as Sir Robert, between whom and the Earl there had been an estrangement, had expressed his willingness to be reconciled, Sir William invites the Earl to come and meet with Sir Robert before he left again for Court. Hadingtoune, 9th June 1629 220

84. Mr. Robert Bruce of Kinnaird to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, expressing his satisfaction with her ladyship's spiritual condition, as indicated by the tone of her last letter to him; and desiring to sympathise with her amidst her trials. Kynnaird, 2nd September 1629 ... 223

85. Mr. Josias Welsh, minister of Templepatrick, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, giving a favourable account of the state of religion in the country, and requesting her ladyship to send him a copy of all the letters from his father in her possession. Templepatrick, 19th October 1632 224

86. The Honourable Henry Montgomery, second son of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Countess, his mother, informing her of his good health. Sommer, 6th November 1632 225

87. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, thanking him for a present of 'stronge cheisse:' mentioning (on the authority of the Lord Scottstorbett) that the King still adhered to his resolution of being in Scotland on the 13th of June next; that Sir John Hay had been appointed Clerk Register; and that the

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Earl of Stratherne had been made resign his title, and was to take a remission. Seatoune, 18th December 1632 226

88. The same to the same, alluding to a report that Mr. Nicoll and his accomplices were to be sent to Scotland to be tried: that the Queen of Bohemia was believed to have arrived at the Court of England: that the Lord Hume was reported to be either dead or dying: and that his Majesty was determined to visit Scotland during the summer. Seatoune, 9th January 1633..... 226

89. The Lords of Privy Council to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requiring his presence and assistance at the coronation of his Majesty (Charles I.) at Edinburgh, on the 18th of June next, and his attendance at the Parliament to be held thereafter; and enjoining him to appear in his 'robe of crymson velvet enamered and his croun' at the former solemnity, and in his 'scarlot rob' at the latter. Halyruid Hous, 19th March 1633..... 227

90. Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, giving him an account of his journey from Setoun to London; and of his presentation to the King by Lord Carlisle (the Marquis of Hamilton being ill of a fever): and stating that he had declined being presented to the Queen, in regard her Majesty was then displeased on account of the interception, and transmission to the King, of a pacquet addressed by her Majesty to the Chevalier de Par. London, 6th April 1633..... 228

91. James Master of Ross to James Lord Ross, his father, expressing the joy he felt on hearing of the latter's recovery from a severe illness. Cain, 30th July 1633 229

92. Walter, first Earl of Buccleuche, to Margaret Lady Ross, his sister, expressing his satisfaction to hear of the recovery of his brother-in-law, Lord Ross; and stating that he would be at home about the term. Dated from the Armie at Viset, 4th October 1633 229

93. Alexander Montgomerie, third son of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to his father, intimating that he had arrived at Paris, and commenced taking lessons in fencing, dancing and mathematics: mentioning the amount of the monthly fees to his masters; the quality and expense of the clothes he had purchased in Paris; and requesting a remittance from his lordship. Parries, 8th November 1633 230

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94. Lady Anna Cunynghame, Marchioness of Hamilton, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him that his eldest son and Hendrie, along with her son, intended leaving Paris for La Mot. Halayroudhous, 8th August [1633 or 1634] 231

95. The same to the same, expressing the great pleasure afforded her by the prospect of the connection of their houses by a marriage between her daughter Anna and Lord Montgomerie. [c. 1634] 231

96. The same to the same, intimating that, in deference to his lordship's desire, she would consent to have her youngest daughter's marriage celebrated privately on Friday next; and inviting him and his eldest son, especially the latter, to be present on that occasion. [c. 1634] 231

97. The same to the same, requesting to be informed of his lordship, and his children and grandchild. Euendel, 31st December [c. 1635] 232

98. The same to the same, expressing her sorrow on account of her grand-daughter's illness, and suggesting some simple remedies, with a view to alleviate her sufferings. [c. 1635]... 232

99. The same to the same, thanking him for his information as to her grand-daughter's health; and referring it to his lordship's discretion not to urge the payment of a sum craved by him, until the registration of a contract in favour of her grand-daughter. [c. 1636] 233

100. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, informing him that he was prevented, by a meeting with the Earls of Mortoun and Dunfermline and the Lord Yester, anent his cousin's business, from attending the meeting of the Commissioners of Tithes, etc.; recommending him to expede his valuation of his kirks of erection, that he might make the best conditions for settling with the heritors and ministers; and cautioning him not to treat with his feuars for new rights after his renunciation in favour of his Majestie. Cannogaitte, 9th February 1634 233

101. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him that his two sons were about to return from Paris; and mentioning that the King had directed a letter to the City of Edinburgh, commanding the election of certain persons named for

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their provost and bailies; but that it was reported the people meant to make their own choice. Seatoune, 26th September 1634 234

102. Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, wherein he expresses his gratitude for the Earl's kindness in sending his (Sir John's illegitimate) son to a boarding school, along with his own sons; and informs him, in confidence, that the child's mother was of a good family in Germany, and that he meant to leave him his sole heir at his death: and proceeds to notice the principal events that were then taking place on the Continent. London, 10th September 1634 234

103. Sir John Setone, Lieutenant of the Scots Guard to the King of France, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, in which, after referring to the return to Scotland of the Earl's two eldest sons, he mentions that the third (Alexander) was to stay with him (Sir John) till he entered service in the beginning of the following year. Paris, 30th November 1634 ... 236

104. Sir David Cuningham of Robertland [?] to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, expressing the great happiness it would have afforded him to have been of service to the Earl's sons in London; and suggesting that his 'lordship's presence and earnist solicitation might 'prevail with his Majestie' in accomplishing the wishes of one of the sons. London, 22nd November 1634..... 236

105. The same to the same, recommending him to endeavour to get his second son, Henry, appointed one of the Lords of the Prince's bed-chamber; and offering his influence to that effect. London, 2nd December 1635 237

106. John, sixth Earl of Rothes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, expressing his satisfaction that the latter had approved of the intended marriage of his son with the daughter of the former; and promising to be as liberal as possible to his son-in-law for the removal of his burdens. Leslie, 21st November 1635..... 237

107. Thomas Viscount Wentworth, Lord-Deputy of Ireland, to Lord Sempill, wherein, with reference to the King's grant to the latter of 3000 acres of the plantation lands in Ireland, he states his inability to assign the same, till the division of the King's portion from that of the native proprietors, and the measurement of the whole, should be completed. [1636]..... 238

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108. James, third Marquis (afterwards first Duke) of Hamilton, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, intimating that his Majesty had appointed him his Commissioner to the General Assembly on the 5th of June following, and requesting the latter to honour him with his presence at Dalkeith on that day. Whythall, 7th May 1638 238

109. John, second Lord Balmerino, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, acquainting the latter with the sending of a supplication to the King, and that the 20th February had been appointed by the Barons for giving in all their reports in answer to the general instructions before issued; and urging his lordship to be present at the meeting of the nobility, in Edinburgh, on that day. Edinburgh, 9th February 1639 239

110. The same to the same, urging his attendance at the meeting of the nobility and Barons, in Edinburgh, on the 20th February; and mentioning that the Marquis of Huntly had threatened to interrupt the meeting of the Barons in Aberdeenshire, held at Turriff on the Thursday preceding. Edinburgh, 16th February 1639..... 239

111. The same to the same, wherein he alludes to the unsatisfactory reception by the King of the supplication of the Parliament; and to the report of 40,000 men being levied by the King: states that the commissioner had, the day before, carried up all the honours from the Abbey to the Castle of Edinburgh, and that he had letters from the King to call up to the Court such noblemen as he pleased: and makes some remarks concerning the entertaining of 'our officers' till spring. Edinburgh, 21st December 1639 240

112. The same to the same, informing him that a King's ship, called the Providence, having on board 100 pressed soldiers, 3 lasts of gunpowder, 80 muskets, 80 picks, etc., had arrived in Leith Roads; and inclosing duplicates of his Majesty's commands to the Provost of Edinburgh; which, he adds, were not likely to be obeyed. Edinburgh, 10th February 1640 241

113. Lady Elizabeth Seatoun, daughter of George, third Earl of Wintoun, and Countess of Marischall, to her uncle, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, thanking him for his 'kynd adwyes' to the Earl Marischall, her husband: and mentioning in terms of high commendation his lordship's son, Colonel Mungumrie. Denoter, 3rd June [1640]..... 241

114. Jeane Ross, wife of Sir Robert Innes of that Ilk, to Margaret Lady Ross, her mother,

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expressing her regret to learn the danger to which the latter and 'many good peopell' in her neighbourhood were exposed of daily attacks from the enemy. Innes, 4th June 1640 242

115. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to his brother, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, praying God to bless the latter with continuing happiness, lest his friends should miss him in their eviole dayes; referring to the bearer for full particulars of late occurrences; and saying, 'the summ of all thair caireiadge as zitt being still, that both the Englische Parliament 'and we wold get all our will.' Seatoun, 16th December 1640..... 243

116. Hew Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, thanking him for having used his influence in procuring him a commission as Lieutenant-Colonel from Hugh, second Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Airdes; and detailing the numbers, condition, and prospects of the Scot's Protestant army in Ireland. Cummer, 17th December 1641..... 243

117. Hugh, second Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Airdes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, wherein, after acknowledging his obligations to the latter, he details the strength of the several garrisons of the Scots in Ireland; describes an encounter of a party of them with the rebels; mentions a report of 10,000 English having landed at Yoghill in Munster; and that £20,000 had been sent over, and a contribution of £10,000 from the city of London, for the maintenance of the war; that several rebel chiefs had concentrated their forces to enter into Lecall; and complains of the want of arms and ammunition. Mont-Alexander, 31st December 1641..... 244

118. Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, in which, after stating how he had executed a commission from the latter to make some purchases of lace, etc., he details the proceedings between the King and the Parliament relative to his Majesty's charge of treason against Lord Mandeville, Pym, Hollis, and others; the King's going down to the Common Council of London; the Council's petition to his Majesty, and its reception; the taking up arms by 30,000 of the citizens; and the retiring of the King and Court from Whythall, etc. London, 10th January 1642 247

119. Elizabeth Kerr, sister of Robert, first Earl of Roxburgh, to her niece, Margaret Scott, second Countess of Eglintoun, expressing sympathy with the latter on account of her own and her son's ill health, and enjoining resignation to the will of the Almighty: and

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bidding farewell to the Countess's son, whom she expects not to see in this life again. 28th July [c. 1630?] 249

120. The same to the same, mentioning her daughter's illness; the unsettled state of the country; the return of Lady Roxburgh from Holland to London with his Majesty's children; and the dissatisfaction caused by the Marquis of Argyle's proposal to appoint her nephew general of the south borders. Caneget, 26th November [c. 1641] 251

121. The same to the same, asking her advice concerning her house in the Canongate; and requesting her ladyship to write to her nephew, the Earl of Bocleuch, to interest himself in favour of Ker of Greden, who had joined the rebels and been taken prisoner. 20th September [c. 1647] 252

122. The same to the same, stating that she had received some cloth sent by the latter. 30th September 1647 253

123. The same to the same, expressing the grief she felt at parting with her, when suffering under circumstances of bereavement. [c. 1647] 253

124. The same to the same, requesting her advice as to the sale of a jewel of hers pledged by Lord Cardross to one 'Streton,' who was urging her either to redeem it herself, or empower him to sell it. 9th March [1648?] 254

125. Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, returning some letters concerning the state of affairs in Ireland, which the former had communicated to the Lords of Privy Council; informing him, that the Commissioners at Court had laid before the King and Parliament some propositions relative to Irish affairs, which, owing to the distractions there, had not been answered; and alluding to the King's charge of treason against Lord Mandeville, Pym, etc. Edenburgh, 13th January 1642 254

126. Mr. James Scott of Bonnytoun (?) to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him that on the 12th February, at midnight, the Committee upon Incendiaries had, after trial, pronounced the Earl of Traquair guilty of four points of treason — 1st, Instigating the King to wage war against his subjects; 2nd, Threatening the Members of Parliament during their sittings; 3rd, Threatening the Members of the General Assembly during their sittings;

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4th, Withdrawing warrants (subscribed by himself) upon which Acts of Parliament and Assembly proceeded: that they had found the Earl of Montrose guilty of deserting the Covenant, and of having 'vsit divisive motiones,' contrary to his oath; and referred the punishment of the said two Earls to the next Parliament; mentioning also, that the city of Edinburgh had got their gift of the rents of the Deanrie of Edinburgh expede in Exchequer. Edinburgh, 2nd March 1642 255

127. The Lords of Privy Council to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him of their decision in a process between the minister of Eglishame and some of the Earl's tenants, his parishioners; and requesting his lordship to attend a visitation of that kirk, to be made by the Presbytery, at the suggestion of the Council. Edinburgh, 24th June 1642 ... 256

128. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Henry Seaton, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh, requesting him to purchase for his lordship a saddle to carry two little coffers; mentioning that he was to leave for Ireland to see his son James, who was sick; and desiring him to send his new black leather boots, four hams, and his two black guarded swords. Eglinton, 5th July 1642 256

129. The same to the same, requesting him to send with the bearer his grandchild, Sir Alexander Montgomerie's daughter; and to give her mother six dollars. Ponoun, 23rd October 1642 256

130. Jeane Ross, Lady Innes, to Margaret Lady Ross, her mother, acknowledging receipt of some parcels of goods sent to her by the latter; and expressing a desire to have some additional furnishings for the Earl of Murray's apartments in Spynie House, which his lordship had given them to occupy for a time. Innes, 27th October 1642..... 257

131. James Earl of Montrose to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, wherein he suggests a doubt whether his appearance with the latter, which had been solicited by him, would at that time be attended with advantage. Kinkairden, 12th November 1642..... 258

132. The same to the same, wherein he expresses himself unable to comply with a request of the latter. Kinkairden, 24th November 1642 258

133. Hugh, second Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Airdes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of

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Eglintoun, denying the truth of a representation to his prejudice, made by his cousin to the General, relative to the troops of horse. Newtoun, 6th December 1642 259

134. John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, intimating to the latter the death of his wife, and requesting his attendance at the funeral. Cassillis, 15th December 1642..... 259

135. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, in answer to the above letter, expressing his sympathy with the latter under his bereavement; and his regret that he was unable to obtain the Chancellor's permission to attend the Countess' funeral, in regard it was the day appointed for the meeting of the Peace Conservation Committee. [Edinburgh, December 1642]..... 260

136. Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, acknowledging receipt of a letter from the latter. Killwining, 19th December 1642..... 260

137. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. Allan Cunyngham, tutor to Sir Frederick Hamilton's children, at Glasgow, recommending that his pupils should be boarded in the College; and authorizing him to obtain the books necessary for them, on his Lordship's account, from James Sanders. Edinburgh, 26th December 1642..... 260

138. Francis, second Earl of Buccleuch, to Margaret Scott, Lady Ross, promising to call for her before leaving town for the south; and to endeavour to give her satisfaction relative to the business of John Scott, her natural brother. 8th February 1643 261

139. Robert, ninth Lord Ross, to Margaret Lady Ross, his mother, wherein he alludes to some unfavourable reports regarding himself, which had reached her. St. Andros, 2nd May 1643..... 262

140. Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, mentioning that he had some scruples as to subscribing the Covenant; and that his sister, Lady Anna, had been very ill, etc. Kilwinning, 6th November 1643 262

141. George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, urging him, on account of the unsettled and dangerous state of the country, to consent to a sig-

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nature being passed and expede in favour of his (eldest) son as his heir, which should contain a proviso that he should not burden the estate by wadsetting or disposing of any of the lands, etc., without his father's consent. Seatoun, 26th February 1644 263

142. Ferdinando, second Lord Fairfax of Cameron, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, in which he states that he had given orders to find out and punish some English soldiers who had insulted a party of troops sent by the latter to Bolton. York, 21st February 1644 ... 264

143. The same to the same, announcing the defeat of his forces at Pontefract by a body of 4000 Royalist horse and dragoons, under Sir Marmaduke Langdale and Sir Thomas Blackwell; and requesting his lordship to draw his own regiment, and desire other officers near him to draw theirs towards Burrow Briggs, where he would meet them to consult as to the best means of securing York, and the passage to Scarborough. Yorke, 2nd March 1644..... 264

144. The same to the same, requesting the latter to advance with his regiment to Wetherby, to join that of the former; and regretting that indisposition prevented him from waiting personally upon his lordship. Yorke, 3rd March 1644 264

145. Sir William Ross of Muiriston to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, in which he states that they were kept in constant alarm by the landing of about 1000 of Lord Sinclair's men at Irwin, and of Lord Loudoun's regiment at Greenock: that both these regiments intended to have quartered in Paisley; but that the inhabitants permitted only two companies to remain in the town: and alludes to the reported arrival at Greenock of 300 of Laweris' regiment, and to the alarm and confusion caused in the country by these troups. Paislay, 9th March 1644 265

146. The same to the same, informing her that in consequence of the family of William Cumynge, one of her ladyship's tenants, having occupied their barn, containing their whole stock of grain, while they were infected with the plague, the magistrates of Paisley, being afraid of the pestilence, were desirous to have the barn and grain cleansed. Paslay, 10th March 1646, 266

147. Francis, second Earl of Buccleuch, to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, informing her that her lord was in good health, and that he was in camp near Durham. 10th April 1644 ... 266

148. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home, his servitor at Eagleshame, trans-

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mitting £10 as all the money he could then get, after using all diligence. Eglinton, 24th June [c. 1644] 267

149. J. Somervell to Mr. James Scott of Bonyntoun, giving a detailed account of the movements of the Scots army during the month of April 1644; mentioning the flight of the Marquis of Newcastle from Durham; the union of the Scots with Fairfax's dragoons; the flight of Newcastle's troops from York during the night of the 22nd, and the pursuit of them and capture of prisoners and horses by the Scots and Fairfax's troops, etc., etc. Ligour at Midilthorpe, 1st May 1644..... 267

150. Mr. David Dickson, Professor of Divinity, Glasgow, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, testifying his joy on the return of the latter from the army, and on account of the success which had attended his lordship's exertions in defence of the Protestant religion. Glasgow, 29th July 1644 268

151. Ferdinando Lord Fairfax of Cameron to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, requesting that his lordship would not quarter his regiment about Northallerton and Thirsk, as the inhabitants there were already sufficiently burdened for the subsistence of the forces engaged in the reduction of Hemsley. Yorke, November 1644 269

152. Alexander, first Earl of Leven, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his lordship to appear for him before the committee on behalf of General Ruthven's children and grandchildren, his pupils. Edinburgh, 14th January 1645 269

153. General David Leslie, afterwards Lord Newark, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, requesting that his lordship would require his officers to strengthen his troops; and that they should be well mounted, armed and clad, under penalty of being cashiered to their disgrace. 14th February 1645..... 270

154. Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, giving an account of the movements of the Parliamentary and Royalist forces; General Gorin's withdrawal from the siege of Tantondean with 4000 men, to join the King at Oxford; the capture of one of the King's garrisons by a party of horse under the command of Colonel Cromwell; an engagement between Prince Rupert and Colonel Massey, and the retreat of the latter to Gloucester; and the junction of Rupert, Maurice and Gorin, near Oxford, with the view of giving

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battle to Sir Thomas Fairfax: Communicating also the latest news from the continent; the union of the Low Countries with Sweden against Christian IV. King of Denmark; the progress of the Swedish arms in Austria; and the intended invasion of Flanders by the French under the Duke of Orleans. London, 9th April 1645 270

155. Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, stating that the Earl of Crawford and Lieutenant-General (Cromwell) had prevented his being present with his friends in his own country, between the rising of the Parliament of Perth and the battle of Kilsyth, by threatening to allow the army to disband if he left it; and giving an account of the proceedings at the conference between him and the Earls of Crawford, Cassillis and Lanark, and Lord Barganie, for determining measures for the defence of the country against the rebels, which resulted in his (Loudoun's) being sent to the army in England, and Cassillis to Ireland. Berwick, 26th August 1645 272

156. General David Leslie, of the Parliamentary forces, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, authorizing his lordship to appoint certain officers over his troops; and informing him of the positions of the Earl of Montrose, and of the Parliamentary leaders in the north. Millhill, 3rd October 1645 275

157. The same to the same, informing him that Montrose was marching towards Glasgow, and intreating him to put the country in a posture of defence. Arbroath, 12th October 1645 275

158. Sir John Setoun to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, stating that Parliament had voted £30,000, to be given to the Scots army, on condition of their besieging Newark; alluding to a suspicion that Lord Montgomerie and some other Parliamentary leaders were more anxious to promote their private interests than the public welfare; and mentioning the success of the Parliamentary troops subsequently to the battle of Naseby; their prospect of taking Chester; the capture of the castle of Winchester, etc. London, 7th October 1645 276

159. Mr. James Mure to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, wherein he mentions that her son (Lord Ross) was an especial favourite with Crawford, the president; states that his lordship possesses sufficient 'quiknes,' but too little solidity — a defect which he hopes will be cured by time. St. Andross, 18th December 1645..... 277

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160. Alexander, first Earl of Leven, to Hugh Lord Montgomery, afterwards seventh Earl of Eglintoun, requesting him to keep a good watch on Prince Rupert, who was on his march towards Newark. Newcastle, 10th April 1645 278

161. Alexander, first Earl of Leven, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, congratulating him upon the victory gained over the rebels, and upon the 'behaviour' of himself and his sons; and informing him, that he had applied to the Estates for permission to lay down his command. Northalerton, 24th September 1645 279

162. The same to the same, entreating his lordship to endeavour to preserve unity in the Parliament; and suggesting that he should send his son, Colonel Robert, to supply his place in the army in England. Greatmoscome, 28th November 1645 279

163. The same to the same, stating that the Earl of Rutland, Lord Willoughbye, and some others, had come to the army; and that he had requested the Parliament to send up some able men to treat with them for the surrender of the town, etc.; and expresses his dissatisfaction that his lordship's sons' two regiments had not come to the army. Newcastle, 31st December 1645 280

164. Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, expressing her regret that he was staying so long at the Parliament; and her apprehension that Allaster [Macdonald] would come over and plunder and burn her property; intimating that the Commissioners of the shire were meeting to concert measures for preventing him from landing on the coast. Eglintowen, 23rd December 1645 280

165. Mr. Zachary Boyd, moderator of the Presbytery of Glasgow, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting him, in the name of the Presbytery, to appoint Mr. William Young, son of the minister of Rutherglen, to be minister of the church of Eglishim. Glesgow, 11th November 1646 281

166. The same to the same, intimating that the Presbytery could not take his Lordship's presentee upon trials, on account of an informality in his presentation, etc. Glasgow, 15th March 1647, 282

167. Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, informing him that an officer near Carlingford had undertaken the release of Lord Aird, for which, if

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he succeeded, he was to get £1000; that two regiments of horse and four of foot had arrived in Dublin from England; and that Sir Thomas Fairfax's army was daily expected over, etc. Neutoune, 10th May 1647 282

168. Mr. James Sharp (afterwards Archbishop of St. Andrews,) to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, declining his Lordship's invitation to preach at Eglishim till his trials before the Presbytery of Edinburgh were finished. Edinburgh, 24th July 1647..... 283

169. Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Colonel James Montgomerie, his brother, expressing his joy at Lord Aird's release; and intimating that the Commissioners were returned, satisfied with their reception by his Majesty, etc. Kilwinning, 13th February 1648 284

170. A. Balfour, Countess of Wemyss, to Anna Countess of Eglinton, concerning the dangerous illness of her second and favourite daughter; and reflecting severely on the Secret Committee. Weimyss, 17th May 1648 284

171. General Thomas Dalzell of Binns to Colonel James Montgomery, promising to communicate all the information that he himself possessed. Carickfergus, 24th May 1648 285

172. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglinton, to Colonel James Montgomery, his son, intimating his doubts of the beneficial results of the rendezvous mentioned; expressing his dissatisfaction with an Act of Parliament recently passed, as tending to lead to a civil war; relating some circumstances concerning the fight at Mauchling; and cautioning him as to an anticipated engagement with Lord Callender. Eglintoun, 21st June 1648 286

173. The same to the same, asking him to send over some hawks, and some deer, which Captain Drummond had promised the Earl. Eglinton, 22nd June 1648 287

174. Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Colonel James Montgomerie, her brother-in-law, expressing regret at the course he and his brother were following in regard to the 'Engagement,' etc. 22nd June 1648 287

175. Hugh, third Viscount Montgomerie of Great Ardes (afterwards created Earl of Mount-Alexander), to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, mentioning the apprehension of Sir Maurice Eustache, Sir John Giford, Colonel Flower, Colonel Willoughby, and others,

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on the charge of having engaged in a plot for the taking of the Castle of Dublin. Carrikfergus, 7th August 1648..... 288

176. The Committee of Estates to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his presence at a general meeting of the Committee, to be held on the 14th of the month, to consider the propositions to be made by the English Commissioners; and for settling the affairs of the kingdom. Dunce, 3rd October 1648..... 289

177. Lady Anna Montgomerie to Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, her stepmother, wherein she mentions that the army had ordained a council of war to sit upon the King; and expressing her fears as to the result. Edinburgh, 8th January 1649 289

178. Mr. Samuel Rutherfurd, Professor of Theology in the University of St. Andrews, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his lordship's influence in favour of Alexander Pitcarne, a regent in the University of St. Andrews, relative to the passing in Exchequer of a comprysing led against the Laird of Barnes. St. Andrews, 15th March 1649 290

179. Robert Fergushill [of that Ilk] to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, informing him of the arrival in Edinburgh of some prisoners taken by Lieutenant-General (Cromwell), out of a ship proceeding to Holland to the King, with a commission to be signed by him; and that Cromwell was then in Brechin. Edinburgh, 9th April 1649..... 290

180. The same to the same, mentioning that a messenger from Cromwell had stated to the Committee that the Athole men were risen and had joined the Lord Ogilvie, with the intention of stopping Cromwell's march southwards, and that the M'Kenzies were hard upon his rear: and that Cromwell had gained over Colonel Frazer and the Laird of Lumlarie. Edinburgh, 28th April 1649 291

181. Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, inclosing a letter from Cromwell to the former containing an account of the defeat of the rebels in the north; and expressing a hope of meeting the latter at the ensuing parliament. Lowdoun, 15th May 1649, 292

182. Lady Anna Montgomerie to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, her stepmother, inquiring after her ladyship's health. Eglintoun, 25th April 1649 292

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183. Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, requesting to hear from his lordship as to how he should employ his time while abroad; mentioning that he had met Major Montgomerie in Paris; that the Queen-mother had arrived at St. Germains, whither the King was to follow her on Thursday thereafter; and that the King of France had raised the siege of Cambray. Parise, 3rd July 1649 293

184. Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, giving an explanation as to his having borrowed 2000 merks without his lordship's order; and expressing his regret that Lord Aird's actions were so much misconstrued by church and state. Orleane, $\frac{19}{8}$ August 1649 294

185. Lady Anna Montgomerie to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, her stepmother, wherein she alludes to a report that Lord Aird, George Monroe and Sir Robert Steuart, had held a council of war at Newtoun, for the purpose of resolving upon some course with regard to the country (Ireland), and to settle all divisions among themselves. Eglintoune, 24th August 1649..... 295

186. Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, wherein she communicates to his lordship the 'happie newis' of the King's agreement with the Commissioners; commending his lordship's dismissal of a suspected female, and praying for a 'gud tryell to all the wicthis, and a hotte fyre to burne them with.' Edenburgh, 8th May 1650 295

187. Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, wherein he informs him that the parliamentary leaders had resolved to draw their army a mile or two westward [from Corstorphine], and offer battle to the enemy by 'shotting 'three peice of cannon towards them:' and that intelligence had reached them that 3500 men were on their march from the south to join the enemy: requesting him to communicate this to Lord Dunfermline. Carstorphin, 22nd August 1650..... 296

188. Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, requesting him not to oppose the kirk and state in their desire of purging his regiment; and advising that he should offer to allow them all to go to the army, except a troop to remain with himself to attend the King, etc. Eglintowen, 1st September 1650 297

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189. Archibald Marquis of Argyll to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, expressing his intention not to send out his ship any where 'in the reverence of the King's ships,' till he had advice and direction from the Committee of Estates and his lordship; and entreating the latter to command his services for the good of the public. Inverrary, 2nd April [1651] 298

190. The same to the same, alluding to the resolution of the Estates to fit out an army for Ireland; suggesting that his lordship should warn friends in his locality to have vessels ready at Ayr and other places for that purpose; and informing him of the surrender of Dumbarton Castle. Dumbarton, 29th August [1651] 298

191. The same to the same, informing him of the Lord Chancellor's prolonged stay in London with the view of establishing a better understanding between the kingdoms; of the defeat of Sir William Vaughan; and of the English Parliament having granted passes to the Princes (Rupert and Maurice), with 400 officers, to go to the continent. Glesgow, 22nd November [1651] 299

192. Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Archibald Marquis of Argyll, requesting him to obtain the confirmation by the Estates, of the King's allowance to the Earl, her husband, of forty men of the new levy out of his father's lands, for those he maintained at Little Cumbrae. 11th September 1651 299

193. Archibald Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, intimating that the Committee [of Estates] was to meet at Dumbarton on the 25th September, when he would endeavour to effect her ladyship's desire. Inverraray, 16th September [1651] 300

194. Lady Montgomerie to the Marquis of Argyll, thanking him for his favourable reply to her last letter; informing him that her husband and her brother, who had fled with the King after the defeat of the Royalists at Worcester, had been taken prisoners; and asking his advice as to how she should conduct herself in the distracted state of the country, in consequence of the total defeat of the Scots army in England. 20th September 1651 300

195. The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, recommending her to crave a pass from General Monck for a servant to send to her husband; and suggesting the propriety of

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offering to the Committee of Estates, or demolishing, the fort at Little Cumbrae. Inverraray, 23rd September [1651] 301

196. Lady Montgomerie to the Marquis of Argyll, inclosing her letter to General Monck, to be forwarded by the Marquis; requesting him to offer, in her name, the fort of Little Cumbrae to the Committee of Estates, to be disposed of as they should think fit; and to request their permission for her to remove to some place where she might have convenient correspondence with her lord. 25th September [1651] 302

197. Lady Montgomerie to Lieutenant-General Monck, requesting a pass for a servant to send to her lord. September 25, 1651 302

198. The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, stating that he had despatched the above letter to General Monck, etc. Rosneith, 27th September [1651] 303

199. General Monck to the Marquis of Argyll, expressing his regret that, in consequence of an act of the English parliament, it was not in his power to grant Lady Montgomerie's request; and suggesting that Lord Montgomerie himself should apply to the Council of State, or to Cromwell, for a pass for his servant. Dundee, 30th September 1651 303

200. General Monck to Lady Montgomerie, to the same effect as the preceding. Dundee, 30th September 1651 303

201. The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, inclosing Monck's reply to his and her ladyship's letters, and recommending her to follow the General's advice. Rothesay, 9th October [1651] 304

202. Lady Margaret Douglas, Marchioness of Argyll, to Lady Montgomerie, inclosing some letters sent by one of the Marquis of Argyll's men, who had been despatched to Monck. Inverarey, 22nd October 1651 304

203. Lady Montgomerie to the Earl of Linlithgow, requesting his advice on several points communicated to the bearer, Sir James Montgomerie. [September 1651] 304

204. The Earl of Linlithgow to Mary Lady Montgomerie, wherein he recommends her ladyship

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to return to her own house; and states his confidence that her son will be in no danger. Rosneth, 27th September 1651 305

205. Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, wherein he mentions that two brigades of the enemy's (Parliamentary) army had marched towards Craigmiller; and that the King's army had sent a party of foot and two regiments of horse to watch their motions; and that, in the event of them attacking Craigmiller House, they were to march the whole army to the assistance of the parties. [1651] 305

206. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Sir George Maxwell of Netherpollock, refusing his request relative to the removing of his dam of Earnmilne, etc. Barwick, 16th November 1653. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*) 306

207. John, seventh Earl (afterwards Duke) of Rothes, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, his brother in-law, acknowledging receipt of certain writings, etc. Edinburgh, 8th February 1656 307

208. Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Colonel James Montgomerie, his brother, wherein he adverts to the bad state of Lord Montgomerie's health, and to the unsatisfactory conduct of his lordship's son; expresses his general approval of two marriages contemplated by his family; but regrets that the friends of the colonel's intended bride would not become security for her portion; states that he had been constrained to labour for his own maintenance; and alludes to the death of Cromwell, and the satisfaction that event would afford to his friends in Scotland. Tours, 19th October 1658 307

209. The same to the same; in which, after alluding to the intended marriage of the latter, he desires that both their portions should be joined in one, in the colonel's name, 'as absolutely bestowed' upon him by the former; and mentions a Mr. Archibald Campbell, whom he had met at Angers, as a very accomplished person for supplying the place of tutor to Lord Winton, or any young Scots nobleman going to the continent. Tours, 27th October 1658 308

210. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home, his steward at Egilshame, requesting him to send to Eglintoun three of the fattest beasts in the park, some veal, and moor-

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fowls or other game, as a French Marquis was expected there in a few days. Eglintoun, 21st October 1658 310

211. Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home, at Eagleshame, directing him to obtain money for his lordship. Eglintone, 5th November 1658 310

212. Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Colonel James Montgomerie, his brother, wherein he mentions that he had written to his father regarding a French lady with whom he was desirous to contract a marriage; and expresses great anxiety to hear whether a former letter, written by him to the colonel, had come to his hands. Mans, 19th November 1659 311

213. Margaret M'Donald, wife of Colonel James Montgomerie of Coilsfield, to her husband, suggesting that he should hasten to meet his brother, Lord Montgomerie, at Beltoun. Eglintoun, 13th August 1660 311

214. William, first Earl of Kilmarnock, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his Lordship to cause his bailie-depute of Cunynghame to desist from proceedings against one of the Earl of Kilmarnock's men, who had injured a brother of the Laird of Grainge, and had already been punished therefor by the Earl's own bailiffs. Badinheath, 12th May 1663 ... 312

215. Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun [?], to his Grace the Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, regretting the death of his cousin, Lord Mont-Alexander; entreating the Duke's influence with the King in favour of his (Mont-Alexander's) son; and recommending to his Grace's favour William Montgomerie, son of Sir James, who had suffered much for the Royal cause. Montgomristoune, 23rd November 1663 312

216. Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, in reply to a letter from the latter recommending to his favourable notice the case of a Mr. Peebles, who was believed by him to have been obliged to leave Ireland on account of his nonconformity. Portmore, 7th December 1663 313

217. Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, requesting his lordship's assistance relative to the (opposed) settlement of Alexander Gregory as minister of Draighorne. Glasgow, 27th June 1664..... 314

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218. The same to the same, complaining of the opposition made by the friends and vassals of the Earl to Mr. Gregory's settlement at Draighorne. Glasgow, 11th August 1664..... 315

219. The same to the same, requesting his lordship to present a second minister to Irwin, a minister to Dunlop, and one to Kilbirnie. Glasgow, 3rd January 1665 315

220. The same to the same, stating that the object of his journey to the west was the planting of as many vacant charges as possible; and expressing a hope that his Majesty's commissioner (the Earl of Rothes) would not impute the numerous vacancies to his neglect. Glasgow, 11th January 1665..... 316

221. The same to the same, with reference to the filling up of several vacant charges in the presbytery of Irvine, etc. Glasgow, 13th January 1665..... 316

222. Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, to Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow, expressing his sympathy with him upon the death of his son. Eglintoun, 27th February 1665 317

223. Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, thanking his lordship for his letter of sympathy; and recommending a person to him for presentation to the church of Dunlop. Glasgow, 6th April 1665..... 317

224. The same to the same, wherein he mentions that the Lords Glencairne and Cochrane had been disappointed of a meeting with his lordship in Glasgow for settling the locality of a minister's stipend; and stating that, in consequence of complaints as to his granting licences to unsuitable persons, he was resolved to grant none at all without the approval of the Lord Commissioner. Glasgow, 29th December 1665 318

225. The same to the same, entreating his lordship that some fair and mederate course might be taken for the removal of the numerous deposed (Nonconformist) ministers, living near his lordship's residence, etc. Glasgow, 24th August 1666 319

226. The same to the same, thanking his Lordship for his 'care and kindness in redressing those 'particulars' which the former had recommended to his lordship, etc. Glasgow, 29th September 1666..... 319

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227. The same to the same, recommending Mr. James Lawson to his lordship for presentation either to the church of Ardrossan or to that of Beeth. Glasgow, 1st October 1666..... 320

228. Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Baronet, to John Todd, his gardener, informing him of the birth of a daughter; and requesting him to send his wife to 'foster the chyld.' Rossie, 25th June 1665 320

229. Lady Margaret Montgomery to the Earl of Loudoun, afterwards her husband, acknowledging letters received from him. Caniget, 25th November 1666. (*From a Copy*) 321

230. Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Earl of Mount-Alexander, requesting him to pay to the Laird of Linchay (the bearer) the money due by his father to Hugh, the seventh Earl. Eglintoune, 28th May 1669..... 321

231. Lady Elizabeth Crichton, Countess of Alexander eighth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Lady Coilsfield, requesting her to send a trusty person to Irvine, with a horse, to receive a parcel. 8th January 1674 322

232. From Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, as to arrangements for his marriage with Lady Wantworth, etc. Duncaster, 14th September 1678 322

233. James Earl of Perth, Chancellor, to Alexander Lord Montgomery, requesting him to convoke, and command to join him, for his Majesty's service, all the heritors of Kyle and Cunynghame; and that they should come armed and with twenty days' provisions, etc. Edinburgh, 19th May 1685 323

234. Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, to his second Countess, Grace Popeley, from London, stating that he would lose no time in executing his business at Windsor, etc., that he might return home as soon as possible. London, 19th August 1685 323

235. Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate, to Sir James Montgomerie of Skelmorlie and others, justices within the Bailiery of Cunynghame, empowering them to nominate for him any person they chose to act as advocate. Edinburgh, 5th September 1688, 324

236. George, first Earl of Melvill, Secretary of State, to Sir James Montgomerie of Skelmorlie,

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thanking him for a recent letter informing him of the state of the country; and stating his confidence that the King was willing and ready to do every thing that might contribute to the happiness of his people. 4th July [c. 1690] 324

237. Letter to Lady Anne Gordon, Countess of Eglinton, giving an account of the last illness and death of her mother, Anne Lockhart, Countess of Aberdeen; and alluding to the probability of her sister, Lady Margaret's marriage being settled soon, etc. Aberdeen, 15th July 1707 325

238. Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun, to Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield, M. P., thanking the latter for giving him notice of the resolution of the Commons to dissolve the Scottish Government. Eglintoun, 9th December 1707 326

239. The same to the same, expressing his surprise at the resolution of the Lords to introduce a bill to compel all the electors of Peers and Commoners to take the oath of abjuration; and expressing a hope that it would not pass the Commons. Eglintoune, 25th February 1708 327

240. Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield to the Lord Pollock (Sir John Maxwell), wherein he states the news from Court, that the threatened invasion was over; and suggests that his lordship and the gentry in his neighbourhood should present an address to her Majesty, setting forth their zeal for her Majesty's government and the Protestant succession. London, 20th March 1708. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*) 327

241. Mr. Francis Montgomerie of Giffen to the Lord Pollock, wherein he alludes to Sir George Byng's preventing the French from landing in the Firth of Forth, and his pursuit of them; and expresses a hope that Lord Kilmarnock might not be elected for the shyre of Renfrewe, etc. London, 20th March 1708. (*Orig. Pollock-Maxwell Charter Chest*) 328

242. Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Baronet, to his uncle, Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield, entreating his forgiveness for having married without his knowledge, etc. Bruntisland Castle, 30th December 1715 329

243. The same to the same, mentioning the Pretender's arrival at Perth and departure for Scoon: that the Master of Sinclair and Sir Robert Gordon had been taken prisoners by Lord

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Seaforth: and that a ship from France, bound to Dundee, loaded with arms, ammunition, and money, had been stranded at St. Andrews. Bruntisland, 14th January 1716..... 330

244. Hugh, eleventh Lord Sempill, to Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun, expressing his concern to hear that the Earl intended to purchase the portion of the estate of Sempill, belonging to the Glassfords, and which they were obliged to sell; and stating that he, the heir-male of the estate of Sempill, hoped soon to be in a position to claim it. Salins, 12th June 1718, 330

245. James, fifth Earl of Galloway, to Hugh Montgomery of Hartfield, intimating the death of Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun. Eglintoun, 18th February 1729 331

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THE MONTGOMERIES IN NORMANDY AND ENGLAND.

AMONG the Norman nobles who accompanied William the Conqueror to England, was Roger de Montgomerie, afterwards the Earl of Shrewsbury; and from this Earl the Scottish Montgomeries claim to be descended. Some writers have professed to trace this family back to a much earlier period; but the first of the name of whom there is authentic evidence, is Roger de Montgomerie, who flourished in Normandy between the years 1000 and 1050. In an early deed in favour of the Abbey of Jumieges, he describes himself—'Rogerius quem dicunt de Montgommerie.'[1] He had a son of the same name, who in the act of foundation for the Abbey of Troarn in the Oximin (Exmes), thus designates his father and himself: 'Ego Rogerius ex Normannis Normannus, Magni autem Rogerii filius.'[2] This son became Earl of Shrewsbury.

Roger the first had four other sons—Hugh, Robert, William, and Gilbert. 'Signum 'Hugonis filii ejus,' is at the foot of a charter of Roger de Montgomerie in the time of Robert Duke of Normandy.[3] William and Hugh made war on some of their Norman neighbours in 1040, and caused much bloodshed. All the sons of Roger the first appear to have died before the year 1063, with the exception of Roger and Gilbert. The latter was accidentally poisoned in that year by his sister-in-law Mabel, countess of his brother Roger. In narrating his death, Ordericus Vitalis says that Gilbert was in the flower of his youth and already distinguished for his chivalrous gallantry.[4]

By his marriage, Roger the second acquired the valuable and extensive earldoms of Belesme and Alençon, which, added to his paternal estates, rendered him one of the wealthiest and most influential nobles of Normandy.

[1] Rotuli Scaccarii Normanniæ, vol. i. p. 73.
[2] Ibid.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Ordericus Vitalis, Bohn's edition, i. 451. For convenience, reference is made to this edition of Ordericus, which has an excellent Index. Careful comparison, however, has been made with the edition of Duchesne. Paris, 1619.

Through the marriages of two of his ancestors with Duchesses of Normandy, Roger the second was closely allied to William the Conqueror, to whom he rendered material assistance in his wars with France and in his invasion of England in 1066. At his own charge, he equipped the large number of sixty vessels for the conveyance of troops,[1] and by his general superintendence of the preparations, greatly contributed to the success of the expedition. It has been repeatedly stated that he led the vanguard of the victorious army at the battle of Hastings. This appears to be a mistake, originating perhaps in a remark by William of Jumieges, who says in general terms 'Predictus autem Rogerius bello Anglico interfuit.' He did not accompany the Conqueror on that occasion, but was left by him in charge of Normandy, of which he was appointed governor in William's absence. It was not till William's second visit to England, two years later, that Roger accompanied him thither.[2]

On arriving in England, Roger de Montgomerie was munificently rewarded for his services by his kinsman the Conqueror, who gave him first the Castle of Arundel and the city of Chichester, and afterwards the earldom of Shrewsbury. This earldom, and the other territorial possessions of Roger, were of vast extent; according to Domesday Book,[3] they included nearly the whole of Shropshire, and upwards of one hundred and fifty lordships or manors, situated in ten or twelve other counties. Roger built a castle at Shrewsbury, where before had been but a rude fortress, and to make room for it, demolished fifty houses, showing as little regard for the inhabitants as his master had shown when making the New Forest.[4]

The Earl of Shrewsbury showed great prudence in the selection of his councillors and officers. Among the latter, the most remarkable whose name has been preserved was Warin the Bald, a man of small stature but great courage, who married the Earl's niece, Emerie. Among the former was Ordelirius, father of the celebrated historian Ordericus Vitalis. With such men as these to maintain tranquillity in his newly acquired territories, the Earl ranked high amongst the greatest nobles of England and of Normandy.[5] Possessed of almost royal wealth, he appears to have adopted a royal style, for in a charter granted to the monastery of St. Evronet, about the year 1083, he is called — Roger, by the grace of God, Earl of Shrewsbury.[6]

[1] Ordericus Vitalis, i. 465, note 1.

[2] Ordericus Vitalis, ii. 14. The father of Ordericus accompanied Earl Roger to England, and was one of his privy councillors. The statement of his son, that the Earl remained in Normandy as governor in 1066, and only came to England in 1068, may therefore be relied on as correct.

[3] Domesday Book as abridged by Kelham.

[4] Quarterly Review, March 1839, p. 408.

[5] Ordericus Vitalis, ii. 48–9.

[6] West's Shropshire. Ordericus Vitalis, ii. 196. 'Dei 'gratia,' used in the charter, meant, by favour of the King and right of the sword. [Quarterly Review, *supra*.]

Not satisfied with these great Saxon spoils, and encouraged by King William, who perhaps thought the cheapest mode of further providing for his followers was to allow them to help themselves at the cost of others, the Earl attempted the conquest of Wales, and there gained the castle and town of Baldwyn in Powis, and the district which still retains the name of Montgomery.[1]

The Earl of Shrewsbury was a liberal benefactor to many abbeys, both in Normandy and in England.[2] In the year 1050, he founded the Abbey of Troarn. Seven years later, he founded the Abbey of St. Martin at Seez.[3] He also made many grants to the monasteries of Almeneches, Cluny, Caen, and several others. But the chief abbey founded by him was that of St. Peter in his own city of Shrewsbury, in the year 1083, erected on the site of an old chapel built of timber by Siward, a cousin of King Edward.[4] To this abbey, in the year 1094, the Earl, feeling his end approaching, retired, devoutly assumed the habit of a monk, and after three days passed with the brethren in pious discourse and prayer, died there on the 27th of July, and was buried with great honour between the two altars.[5]

The character of this Earl has been described by a contemporary historian in favourable terms. He was 'wise, moderate, and just, and ever ready to extend his patronage to intelligent and unassuming men.'[6]

This great Earl was twice married—first, before 1060, to Mabel, Countess of Belesme and Alençon, who is represented by Ordericus as a woman of great cruelty, oppressive to her neighbours, the cause of ruin to many. One who had suffered at her hands, forced his way into Mabel's chamber, at a place called Bures on the Dive, and killed her as she lay in bed. She was interred in the Abbey of Troarn, on the 5th of December 1082; and an epitaph, which is preserved by Ordericus, was inscribed on her tomb, in terms which are due rather to the partiality of her friends than to any merit of her own.

William Pantoul, a Norman knight, was accused of being accessory to the murder of Mabel, but denied the charge, and sought protection in the Abbey of St. Evronet. Pantoul's estates were immediately seized by Earl Roger, and sometime afterwards at Rouen an opportunity was given the knight to clear himself of the charge, by under-

[1] Powell's History of Wales, Edit. 1584, pp. 151, 152.

[2] Ordericus Vitalis, i. 389.

[3] Ibid. 405.

[4] Ibid. ii. 197-8. In the foundation charter of Battle Abbey, Earl Roger is designated 'Roger Comitis de Muntgumry.' [Original Charter in the British Museum.]

[5] Ordericus Vitalis, ii. 203; iii. 32.

[6] Ibid. ii. 48. Although Roger was engaged in the acquisition of vast territories, both in Normandy and England, he turned his attention to smaller matters, such as the breeding of horses. He imported some stallions from Spain into his estate in Powisland, and their produce was celebrated afterwards by Drayton the poet. This is the earliest authenticated step we can find towards the improvement of the breed of horses. [History of the British Turf, by J. C. Whyte. Colburn, London, 1840, 8vo. i. 19.]

going the ordeal of hot iron. He carried the burning iron in his naked hand unharmed, and thus was purged of the charge of murder![1]

Earl Roger and Countess Mabel had five sons and four daughters. The eldest son, Robert de Montgomerie, Comte de Belesme, Alençon, et d'Hiesme, succeeded his mother in her Norman honours and estates in 1082, and soon after commenced that turbulent career, which kept Normandy in a state of civil war for many years. Duke Robert imprisoned him in 1088. Earl Roger hastened from England to Normandy to procure the release of his son. The family then held many of the strongest castles and fortresses in Normandy; instead of reducing these, as he was strongly urged to do even by the ministers of religion, Duke Robert in his love of ease made peace with the Earl, and released his son Robert de Belesme.

Two years later Robert again took up arms, and attacked the inhabitants of the Bemes or Hiemois. He built several fortresses to enable him to carry on his aggressions. Gaining to his assistance for a time the feeble Curthose, he laid siege to the Castle of Courci, which belonged to powerful knights, rivals of Robert. The siege lasted till 1091, when William Rufus visited Normandy, and the hostile armies were disbanded.

During the remainder of his residence in Normandy, Belesme seems to have been constantly at war with his neighbours.

On the death of Earl Roger, he was succeeded in his Norman possessions by Robert, whilst Hugh, the second son, succeeded to the earldom of Shrewsbury and the English estates. In a charter, Hugh designates himself 'Hugo Comes Saloppessire,' and recites an obligation he had undertaken while standing at the tomb — 'patris mei scilicet Rogeri Comitis de Montgomerii.'[2] From the red colour of his hair, this Earl was called by the Welsh 'Hugh Goch,' or red-headed. In the wars of succession between Robert and William, the sons of the Conqueror, he espoused the cause of the former. Hugh was pardoned by William Rufus; and on paying a fine of £3000 to the King, was restored to the royal favour.

Hugh did not long enjoy the earldom of Shrewsbury. In July 1103, when Magnus, King of Norway, appeared on the coast of Anglesey with his great maritime expedition against the Irish, Earl Hugh was very active in opposing his landing, actually riding into the water to encounter the enemy. An arrow struck him in the eye, the Earl fell from his horse, and was carried out by the ebbing tide. Seventeen days afterwards his body was recovered and brought to Shrewsbury Abbey, where it was buried beside

[1] Ordericus Vitalis, ii. p. 210.

[2] Dugdale's Monasticon, last edition, iii. 520.

his father, with great lamentation.[1] He was the best of all the sons of Mabel, and during his possession of the earldom conducted himself with such generosity to his vassals, as gained from them very general respect. Dying unmarried he was succeeded by his eldest brother Robert, third Earl of Shrewsbury, who in the tenth year of William Rufus paid to the King, as a relief for his English earldoms, the sum of £3000 sterling. The relief of an earl, by the laws of the Conqueror, was eight horses saddled and bridled, four helmets, coats of mail, shields, swords, chafers and a palfrey saddled and bridled.[2] The large sum paid by Earl Robert for his relief shows the extent of his earldoms.

His vast estates — Norman and English — and his turbulent spirit, rendered Robert a dangerous subject, and on his breaking out in open rebellion, King Henry seized the opportunity to crush him. The King laid siege to the Castles of Bridgenorth and Arundel, and after much hard fighting, Robert surrendered on condition of being allowed to depart into Normandy, which he did, 'boiling with rage and overwhelmed 'with grief.' There he soon resumed his tyrannies over his countrymen, not excepting even the heads of religious houses. Again, in 1112, he set at defiance the authority of Henry of England, then Duke of Normandy, but unsuccessfully. He was arrested and taken to the Castle of Cherbourg, and from thence to the Castle of Warham in Norfolk, where he ended his days in strict confinement. 'Of him,' says Henry of Huntingdon, 'whose fame had been spread everywhere, no one knew, after 'he was in prison, whether he was alive or dead, and report was silent of the day 'of his death.' Ordericus has drawn a portrait of Robert as unfavourable to his moral character as it is favourable to his abilities. According to this writer, he was of a subtle genius, deceitful, wily, and a fluent speaker. In person stout, and of great strength; intrepid and formidable in war; but cruel and avaricious. He displayed great skill in engineering; was full of resources in difficult affairs, and capable of undergoing the greatest personal fatigue.

Robert, third Earl of Shrewsbury, married Agnes, daughter of Guy, Count of Ponthieu, by whom he had a son, who succeeded him.

The third son of Earl Roger was Roger de Poictou, Lord or Earl of Lancaster. He had from the Conqueror the greater part of Lancashire, of which he was occasionally

[1] The following verses were sung on the death of Earl Hugh —

'On the armour arrows rattle,
'Where our Norse King stands in battle;
'From the helmets blood streams flow,
'Where our Norse King draws his bow;
'His bowstring twangs — its biting hail
'Rattles against the ring linked mail;
'Up in the land in deadly strife,
'Our Norse King took Earl Hugo's life.'

[Ordericus Vitalis, iii. 219, note 1.]

[2] Rapin's History of England by Tindal, i. 191, note.

styled Earl. Roger was in Arundel Castle, with his brothers Robert and Arnulph, when they yielded to Henry I. and were allowed to retire to Normandy. He lost his Lancashire possessions at the same time, and retired to his wife's property in Poictou. He married Almodis, Comtesse de la Marche. Their eldest son, Andebert, became Comte de la Marche, and carried on the line of that family.[1]

The fourth son of Earl Roger and Mabel was Arnulph de Montgomery, Castellan or Earl of Pembroke. In 1091, he got Pembrokeshire from William Rufus, and built the castles of Pembroke and Cardigan. Ordericus says that Roger and Arnulph ranked high among their countrymen as knights and men of worth, and both were made earls.[2] Arnulph married, in 1101, the Princess Lafracoth, daughter of Murtach O'Brien, King of Munster. From this marriage the Scotch Montgomeries claim their descent upon grounds which will be afterwards shown. A few years after the marriage, King Murtach, in consequence of the hatred which the Irish conceived against the Normans, carried off his daughter from Arnulph, and made attempts on the life of her husband, who, however, escaped to Normandy, and lived for nearly twenty years, without having any fixed place of residence. In his old age he married again, and expired immediately after his marriage banquet, leaving 'the guests to listen to funeral dirges instead of an epithalamium.'[3]

The fifth son of Earl Roger, Philip de Montgomery, was called the Clerk or Grammarian, which shows that he had received a liberal education. He accompanied Robert Duke of Normandy in the first Crusade in 1096, where he greatly distinguished himself by overcoming in single combat a champion from the hosts of the Saracens. Philip died soon afterwards at Antioch in 1098, leaving a daughter, Matilda, who succeeded her aunt, Emma, as abbess of Almenesches, in 1113.[4]

The four daughters of the first Earl Roger were—(1.) Emma, abbess of Almenesches; (2.) Maud, who married Robert Earl of Morton, uterine brother of William the Conqueror, and had issue; (3.) Mabel, who married Hugh Lord of Chateu Neuf; (4.) Sybilla, who married Robert Fitzhamon, Lord of Creulli in Normandy, and of Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire, and died in 1107, leaving three daughters.[5]

Roger married, secondly, Adeliza, daughter of Everard de Puiset, one of the highest of the French nobility. Unlike Mabel, Adeliza was a lady of great sense and piety, and a special benefactor to the poor. By her Earl Roger had only one son, Everard, who was a scholar, and became one of the royal chaplains to William and Henry, kings of England.[6]

[1] Anselme, iii. 286-7.
[2] Ordericus Vitalis, iii. 33, 338.
[3] Ordericus Vitalis, iii. 351.
[4] Ibid. iii. 342.
[5] Ordericus Vitalis, ii. 195.
[6] Ibid. ii. 195.

THE MONTGOMERIES IN SCOTLAND,

FROM ROBERT DE MUNDEGUMBRI, FIRST OF EAGLESHAME, TO THE FIRST LORD MONTGOMERIE, 1103-1445.

I. ROBERT DE MUNDEGUMBRI, FIRST OF EAGLESHAME [1103-1178],

WAS the first of the family who settled in Scotland. He is a witness to many charters of dates ranging from the year 1163 to the year 1175. He is not, indeed, as stated by Crawford and others, a witness to the foundation charter of the monastery of Paisley, dated in 1160,[1] but he is one of the witnesses to the endowment charter of Walter the High Steward, the founder of that monastery, which was granted between the years 1165 and 1173. This charter is entitled, 'Carta Walteri filij Alani fundatoris de diversis terris et ecclesiis collatis tam citra moram quam ultra,'[2] and must have been granted before 1174, as Engelramus, Bishop of Glasgow, one of the witnesses by whom it is attested, died on the 2nd of February of that year. Robert is also a witness to a charter of certain lands in the burgh of Roxburgh, in Molle and in the village of Renfrew, to the monks of Kelso, 1165–1177.[3] He attests the confirmation charter of Jocelin, Bishop of Glasgow, of a toft in the burgh of Glasgow to the monks of Melrose, 1165–1214.[4] Robert also attests the charter of the donation of the churches of Innerwick and Legerwood, and of a carrucat of land, and of all churches in Stragrif, to the monastery of Paisley, 1165–1173;[5] and several other charters, of dates from 1164 to 1177.

King Malcolm IV. confirmed, on 24th June 1157, to Walter, son of Alan, the donation made by David I. of the lands of Eglisham, Innerwick and others. Soon afterwards Robert obtained from Walter the Steward a grant of the lands of Eagleshame. This valuable estate is said to have been conferred on Robert by Walter, as the dowry

[1] Register of Paisley, p. 12. [2] Ibid. p. 5. [3] Reg. Car. de Kelso, i. 138. [4] Liber de Melros, i. 37. [5] Register of Paisley, p. 7.

of his daughter Marjory, whom Robert espoused as his first wife. Of this there is no evidence, although there is evidence of a close connection having subsisted between the family of the High Steward and the Montgomeries from the earliest period. Both families had a common Norman origin; and both came to England with the Conqueror, and obtained large territories from him in England and Wales. Roger Montgomerie, Earl of Shrewsbury, founded the abbey of St. Peters at Shrewsbury, and the Priory of Wenlock in Shropshire. Alan, the father of Walter the High Steward, confirmed to the former of these religious houses certain grants of lands in Shropshire,[1] while Isabel de Say, Lady of Clune, daughter-in-law of Alan, was a great benefactor to Wenlock. When Walter emigrated to Scotland, he was accompanied by Robert Montgomerie, who appears to have been the son of Arnulph, fourth son of the first Earl of Shrewsbury.

Owing to the destruction of the Montgomerie muniments, by the burning of Eglinton Castle in the beginning of the sixteenth century, it may now be impossible to discover direct evidence of the affiliation of Robert the first of Eagleshame. Arnulph was married, as we have seen, in 1101, to the Princess Lafracoth. Hollinshed states, that the first ancestor of the Carew family was named Montgomerie, and that in the time of Henry II. (1154) he married the Lady Elizabeth, daughter to Roscius, Prince of South Wales, by which marriage he was advanced to honour, and made baron of the Castle of Carew, whereof his posterity in time took their surnames, being called Carew.[2] Camden too declares, that this family was anciently called Montgomerie, and believe themselves to be descended from Arnulph de Montgomerie, brother of Robert, Earl of Shrewsbury, in the reign of Henry I. Arnulph therefore had a family, and it is probable that Robert was one of his sons, and received his Christian name from his uncle, Robert, third Earl of Shrewsbury. Arnulph and his family, when in England, were closely connected with the family of Walter the Steward. It was natural, when they had lost their English possessions, that some of them should gladly accompany Walter to Scotland, and that Robert did so there is ample evidence, and that he acquired large possessions from Walter soon after his arrival in this country. The connection, then, which existed between the families of Montgomerie and Fitzalan in England, the loss by the former of their English possessions, and the simultaneous appearance of both in Scotland connected as closely as ever, lead to the inference, that Robert was of the family of the English Montgomeries, and if so, he could only have been the son of Arnulph; the children of Arnulph's brothers being otherwise accounted for.[3]

[1] Dugdale's Baronage, i. 314.
[2] Holinshed, vi. 376.
[3] The Dictionnaire de la Noblesse de France, vol. x. p. 369, states that Arnulph was ancestor of the House of Eglinton.

Robert Montgomerie, first of Eagleshame, died about the year 1178.[1] He left two sons — 1. Alan, who succeeded him; 2. William de Mundegumbri, who is one of the witnesses to the donation of the church of Dunsyre by Helias, brother of Joceline, Bishop of Glasgow, to the Abbot and Convent of Kelso, about 1170.[2]

II. Alan de Mundegumbri, second of Eagleshame [1178–1200],

Succeeded his father Robert. The contemporary evidence regarding Alan is so scanty, that his existence has hitherto been overlooked. He is, however, mentioned in a charter of certain lands in Innerwick, granted to the abbey of Melrose by John his son and others, about the year 1170.[3] He must have been the Alan who witnesses the charters concerning the sixth part of the territory of Innerwick, granted by Robert Avenel and his son Vincencius; and another charter concerning two parts of the same — all about 1190.[4] Alan also witnessed a charter 'Henrici Sancto Martino de donatione terrarum de Penald' to the monastery of Paisley, about 1177.[5] Alan de Mungumbri is also a witness to a confirmation charter of Walter, son of Alan, concerning certain gifts to the monks of Melrose subsequently to 1165.[6]

Alan appears to have had two sons —

1. John, who succeeded him.

2. Robert, who is a witness to several charters between the years 1164 and 1177. He and his brother John are both witnesses to the charter entitled 'Relaxatio duarum 'celdrarum farine molendini de Pasleto,' dated 1164–1177.[7] He is a witness to the charter of Walter son of Alan, founder of the monastery of Paisley, to Henry St. Martin, before 1177.[8] He attests the donation of the church of Innyrkyp to the monastery of Paisley about 1170.[9] He appears to be the Robert who is a witness to the charter of Lady Eschine, wife of Walter the High Steward, of the lands of Molle, to the abbey of Paisley before 1177.[10] Robert and his brother John attest a number of other charters between 1207 and 1214.[11]

[1] In previous accounts of the family, it has been very generally stated, that Philip, a son of Arnulph, Earl of Pembroke, was the first Montgomerie who came to Scotland and acquired Eagleshame. But this is an obvious mistake. Philip was the brother and not the son of Earl Arnulph.

[2] Reg. Cart. de Kelso, ii. 285.

[3] Vol. ii. p. 1, No. 1.

[4] Reg. Cart. de Kelso, 210, 211, 215.

[5] Register of Paisley, 49.

[6] Liber de Melros, i. p. 63.

[7] Register of Paisley, p. 86.

[8] Ibid. 49.

[9] Ibid. p. 112.

[10] Ibid. p. 74.

[11] Ibid. pp. 19, 21-24. 116, 337, 401.

III. John de Mundegumbri, third of Eagleshame and first of Innerwick [1200–1220],

Succeeded Alan his father about the year 1200. He married Helen, one of the daughters of Robert de Kent of Innerwick in East Lothian, and with her obtained a third part of the estates of Innerwick, which her father held under the High Steward of Scotland. John and William of Hauccestertun, and Richard his brother, granted as already stated a charter of certain lands in Innerwick to the abbey of Melrose about 1170.[1] The seal of John, here engraved, is still appended to this charter. He and his wife Helen, and William de Hauckerston, and his wife and others, as heirs of Robert de Kent, granted a charter of certain lands in the territory of Innerwick to the Abbot and Monks of Kelso about the year 1190.[2] John is a witness to a confirmation charter of Bishop Joceline, concerning four churches granted to the monastery of Paisley between 1175–1199.[3]

By his wife Helen de Kent, Sir John had a son —

IV. Sir Alan Mundegumbri, Knight, fourth of Eagleshame [1220–1234],

Who succeeded his father in the estates of Eagleshame and Thornton in Renfrewshire, and Innerwick in East Lothian, about 1220. Sir Alan comes chiefly under notice during the time that he possessed the paternal estates; but seems to have held 'divers 'lands in tenemento de Innerwick' before his father's death. Between the years 1200 and 1231, we find him as a witness to several charters of donation to the monastery of Paisley. He is a witness to the charter of Alan, the son of Walter, the founder of the monastery of Paisley, 'de decimis denariis de Maphelia,' of date 1202 or 1203;[4] and certainly not later than 1204, as Alan died that year. In the reign of Alexander II., 1214–1249, we find from the chartularies of Paisley, Kelso and

[1] Vol. ii. No. 1, p. 1. [2] Reg. Cart. de Kelso, i. 209. [3] Register of Paisley, 109. [4] Register of Paisley, p. 14.

Melrose, that Sir Alan was a witness to many writs and charters of donation to all those houses. From the Register of Paisley, it appears that he was a witness to the charter of the lands between Old Patrick and Espedie,[1] granted by Walter, grandson of the founder of the abbey of Paisley, from 1208 to 1218; that he was a witness to the charter by Gilbert, son of Henry de St. Martin, between 1208–1233;[2] that he was a witness to the charter of Malcolm Locard, of six acres of land in Symontoun of Kyil, about 1210;[3] and that he was a witness to the charter of Walter, son of Alan the High Steward, concerning the ordination of the first abbot of Paisley in 1220.[4] In the Kelso Register there is an agreement, dated 1221, between Herbert, abbot of Kelso, and Sir Alan de Mundegumery, Knight, regarding the tithes of Innerwick, which had been for some time disputed between him and the convent.[5] He was a witness to 'carta Wilelmi Walensis de terra per divisas,' to 'carta confirmatio 'Walteri filii Alani de Innerwick,' and to the confirmation charter of the same concerning Edmudestun, all in the reign of Alexander II.[6] Sir Alan died about 1233 or 1234. He left three sons—

1. Robert, who succeeded him.
2. John, who succeeded his brother Robert.
3. Henry, who was a witness along with his brother Robert to a charter of Walter the Steward between 1204 and 1246.[7]

V. 1. Sir Robert de Montgomerie, Knight, fifth of Eagleshame [1234–1260],

Succeeded his father about 1234. He and his brother John are witnesses to a charter of donation to the monks of Paisley, by Walter the High Steward, about the year 1234;[8] and he and his brother Henry are witnesses to a charter by the same, concerning the excambion of the lands of Ingleston with the lands of Innerwick, between the years 1240 and 1248. He is also a witness to a charter of Walter the High Steward, of some lands in the territory of Innerwick to the monks of Kelso, between 1236–1240.[9] In 1258 he attests a charter granted to the monks of Coldingham by Patrick Earl of March. He seems to have died without issue in 1259 or 1260.

[1] Register of Paisley, pp. 17, 18.
[2] Ibid. 49, 50.
[3] Ibid. 71.
[4] Ibid. 1.
[5] Reg. Cart. de Kelso, i. p. 216.
[6] Liber de Melros, i. 38, 52, 54.
[7] Register of Balmerino, p. 19.
[8] Register of Paisley, pp. 20, 21.
[9] Reg. Cart. de Kelso, i. p. 203.

V. 2. Sir John de Montgomerie, Knight, sixth of Eagleshame [1260–1285],

Succeeded his brother Sir Robert about 1260. He is styled John de Montgomerie of Eastwood, but probably he was so called only before he succeeded his brother in the family estate of Eagleshame. In addition to the charter above mentioned, to which he and his brother Robert are witnesses, he attests a charter of donation to the abbey of Paisley about 1260.[1] He died about 1285. He is said to have married Margaret, daughter of William Murray, Baron of Bothwell, and left four sons and one daughter —

1. John, who succeeded him.

2. Murthaw, who is supposed to have been the ancestor of the Montgomeries of Thornton and Innerwick, in East Lothian, the last male representative of whom, John Montgomerie of Thornton, left an only daughter and heiress, Margaret, who married Sir Archibald Hamilton of Innerwick, who died before 12th November 1505, leaving issue. Murthaw swore fealty to Edward I. of England in 1296.

3. Alan of Stair and Cassillis. In the Haddington Collection, the charter of Alan, of the lands of Stair, runs thus — 'Carta Alani de Montgomerie filii quondam Johannis 'de Montgomerie de terris de Stahare, etc., anno regis 22.' Alan appears to have had two sons—1. Sir Niel of Cassillis, who was probably father of Christian de Mundgumry, to whom Marjory de Mundegumry her cousin was heir and successor in the lands of Cassillis before 1363.[2] 2. John of Stair, who was succeeded in Stair by his daughter Marjory. She joined with Marjory Montgomery, senior, in a charter of sale of the lands of Cassillis, to John Kennedy, before 1363, and she also sold Stair to Malcolm, son of Henry Fergus of Carrick, before 1382.[3] Marjory de Mundgumry was married to a gentleman of the name of Kennedy, probably this John, and had a daughter Agnes, who was married to William Dalrymple.

4. Thomas, who like his brother Murthaw, swore fealty to Edward I. of England in 1296; and in the Ragman Roll he is designated of the county of Stirling.

5. His only daughter was married to Archibald Mure of Rowallane. From this marriage descended Elizabeth Mure, wife of Robert II.

[1] Register of Paisley, 58. [2] Vol. ii. p. 2, No. 2. [3] Vol. ii. pp. 2 & 16, Nos. 2 & 20.

VI. Sir John de Montgomerie, seventh of Eagleshame [1285–1357],

Who succeeded his father, Sir John, about 1285. At that time, the lordships of Eagleshame and Eastwood, and indeed the whole of Renfrewshire, were included in Lanark; hence we find this second Sir John designated del Comte de Lanark. When on the death of Margaret of Norway, on her passage to Scotland in 1290, the disastrous competition for the Scottish throne took place between Bruce and Baliol, Sir John was one of the great barons summoned by Edward I. of England to meet at Norham Castle, on the English side of the Tweed, to deliberate as to the succession to the Scottish throne, and the relative position of the two kingdoms. In 1296 Sir John and all the principal proprietors in the country were obliged to swear fealty to Edward. But when Bruce asserted the independence of his country, and his own title to the throne, Sir John immediately joined his standard.

Sir John married Janet, daughter of Sir John Erskine of Erskine, and by her had a son and a daughter —

1. Alexander, who succeeded him.

2. Marjory de Montgomerie, senior, so styled to distinguish her from Marjory, junior, the daughter of John de Montgomerie her cousin. These two Marjories joined in the vendition of the lands of Cassillis to John Kennedy, as appears from the confirmation charter of David II. in 1363.[1] Sir John died about 1357, and was succeeded by

VII. Alexander de Montgomerie, eighth of Eagleshame [1357–1380].

It is clear from the part which he took in public matters, and the important and often difficult and delicate duties he was called on to perform, that Alexander was a man of great ability, and undoubted honour and integrity. In 1358, he was one of the Scottish Commissioners who met the English Commissioners at Berwick, to negotiate the famous treaty for the release of King David II., then a captive in England. On the 24th October of the same year he with several other noblemen, prompted by a love of adventure or a desire of military glory, obtained letters of permission to pass

[1] Vol. ii. p. 3, No. 3.

through England, on their way to the Continent, with armed retinues. The time of his return is not precisely known, but he seems to have died about the year 1380. He married a daughter of William, first Earl of Douglas, and his wife Margaret, daughter of the Earl of Dunbar and March,[1] and by her had an only son —[2]

VIII. Sir John de Montgomerie, ninth of Eagleshame, and first of Eglinton and Ardrossan [1380-1398],

Who succeeded his father about 1380. At the battle of Otterburn, in August 1388, Sir John and his son Hugh greatly distinguished themselves by their bravery. The son was slain. Sir John captured Sir Henry Percy, better known as Harry Hotspur, who, for his ransom, was obliged to build the Castle of Polnoon, long the chief messuage of the barony of Eagleshame. Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglintoun, in a letter to his agent Mr. George Russell, writer to the signet, dated Eglinton Castle, 8th October 1807, says —

'A good many years ago, the Duchess of Northumberland, on being informed that the Castle of Polnoon was built by 'Harry Hotspur for his ransome, and that the Percy arms were still to be seen upon it, sent a person to take a copy of 'them; but no arms of any kind was to be found. Very lately Robert Montgomerie, banker in Irvine, was with me at 'Eagleshame. During the time he was there, he paid a visit to Hugh Montgomerie. On looking about the house, 'Hugh Montgomerie pointed out to him a stone built in the house, but harled over so as not to be easily seen. This 'stone, in his vanity, he said, was arms which had been taken from Polnoon Castle; but as he was told that he would 'be obliged to pay for wearing arms, if they continued exposed (or some such nonsense as this), he had them cast over. 'I suspect these to be the very arms, and stole by Mr. Montgomerie. I wish to know, therefore, what steps I ought to 'take to recover these; for undoubtedly, whether Percy arms, or whatever they may be, they ought not to be allowed 'to remain with him, as he can have no right to them whatever.'[3]

No further trace has been found of this stone.

On 9th December 1389 James the Lyndesay, Lord of Bochane, granted to his

[1] Hume of Godscroft's History of the House of Douglas, p. 79.

[2] 'Iste John Montgomery fuit nepos Magni Comiti de 'Douglas interfecti apud Otterburne.' [Harleian MS. British Museum.]

[3] Letter at Eglinton. The original residence of the family of Montgomerie at Eagleshame, was a castle, situated at some distance from Polnoon, the site of which is marked on the large map of Renfrewshire. Part of Polnoon was standing in 1676, and is thus noticed in a Paper of instructions by the eighth Earl of Eglinton to his friends, dated 21st April of that year: — 'That he' (the factor) 'cause sight that pairt of the house of Polnun 'that is now standing, and if it needs pointing, to cause 'point it and dresse it.' [Original at Eglinton.] Polnoon stood on the bank of a rivulet of the same name, about three quarters of a mile south-east from the church. It has long been a complete ruin, and only a part of the walls remain standing. [Chalmers' Caledonia, vol. iii. p. 852.]

'lufit cosyng' John of Montgumrie, Lord of Egillhame, an obligation not to recognosce the lands of Dunbulge and Carny.[1] John Montgomerie, Lord of Egilshame, granted a charter to William of Blakeforde, of the lands of Little Benane, which is dated at Eglisham on 8th October 1392.[2] The Seal appended to this charter is here engraved. Sir John of Montgomerie died between that date and 1398. He married Elizabeth, the daughter and sole heiress of Sir Hugh Eglinton of that Ilk, one of the two great Justiciaries of Scotland, in the reign of King David II. By this marriage Sir John Montgomerie acquired the baronies of Eglinton and Ardrossan. John and Elizabeth had three sons —

1. John, who succeeded.

2. Alexander, who in 1387 got from his mother the lands of Bonnington, in the barony of Ratho, and granted several writs connected with these lands, of which there was an inventory made in 1623. The original writs have since been lost.[3]

3. Hugh, the youngest son of John Montgomerie and Elizabeth Eglinton, was slain at Otterburn in 1388 as already stated.[4]

[1] Vol. ii. p. 17, No. 22.

[2] Ibid. p. 17, No. 23. Mr. Wood, in his Peerage, has misprinted the lands *Ard*bennane, and he has been followed by subsequent writers. A facsimile of this beautiful charter will be found in vol. ii.

[3] Lauderdale Inventories. The writs are described as follows —

Obligation by Alexander of Montgomerie, laird of Bonnytoun, to give to Allan of Lauder his charter of blench farm, of the lands of Platt, Westhall and Northraw, and two plewlands of Norton, he delivering to the said Alexander the resignation of Thomas Cripney. Sealed by himself without date.

Charter of Ratification by the said Alexander of Montgomerie to Allan Lauder, of the foresaid alienations made by Thomas Cripney to the said Allan of the lands of Platt, Northraw and Westhall of Ratho, faithfully promising to give heritable sasine to the said Allan or his attornie, whenever he shall be required. Sealed by himself and Alexander Ramsay of Dalhousie, without date.

Disposition by the said Alexander Montgomerie to Allan Lauder of the foresaid annualrent of 4 merks 8 shillings, due by Alexander to Allan, for a sum of money paid by Allan to Alexander, for loosing of his lands of Bonnington, from James Douglas of Dalkeith, and Egidia Lindsay his spouse. Sealed by himself without date.

Discharge of the said annualrent by the said James Douglas, whereto he had right as being liferented by his spouse. Dated at Edinburgh, 7th May 1379.

Discharge of £20 sterling, as the price of the annualrent before discharged by the said Alexander to the said Allan, which he says is for loosing of his lands of Bonningtoun. Dated at Tamtallon, 23rd February 1385.

Indenture made between Alexander de Montgomerie and Allan Lauder, anent the foresaid annualrent of 4 merks 8 shillings. Dated at the Kirk of St. Giles in Edinburgh, 10th November 1388. Sealed by the said Alexander only.

[4] No mention of this Hugh is found except in the ballad, and the different copies of it are not at one as to his fate. His existence is doubtful.

THE EGLINTOUNS OF THAT ILK.

[1057–1377].

THIS was a very ancient and distinguished family, who possessed the estate of Eglintoun as early as the eleventh century.

1. Eglin was lord of Eglintoun in the time of King Malcolm Canmore, who reigned from 1057 to 1093. His son and successor was,

2. Bryce de Eglintoun, who acquired certain lands from the community of the village of Irvine, which were regranted by his grandson in 1205. He was father of,

3. Hugh de Eglintoun, whose son and heir,

4. Rodolphus de Eglintoun, in the year 1205, regranted to the community and burgesses of the village of Irvine certain lands which had been acquired from them by his grandfather Bryce de Eglintoun.[1]

5. Rodolph de Eglintoun, Knight, is the next who appears, and he was probably grandson of Rodolph, No. 4. He swore fealty to Edward I. in 1296. The letter of homage is preserved in the Chapter House, Westminster, with the Seal appended, an engraving of which is given on the opposite page. He was probably the father or grandfather of—

6. Sir Hugh de Eglintoun, Knight. Between the years 1358 and 1377, he, and Egidia Stewart his spouse, received from the Crown charters of various lands.[2] He was Justiciary of Lothian in 1361, and was in the Convention relative to the affairs of the marches, which met on 1st September 1367 at Muirhouslaw, and which thence adjourned to Roxburgh. Dunbar the poet, in his 'Lament for the Death of the 'Makars,' refers to 'the gude Schir Hew of Eglyntoun.' Winton also, in his Chronicle, commemorates 'Hucheon of the 'Awle Ryall,'' or 'Hugh of the Royal 'Court.' To Sir Hugh are attributed the 'Gest of Arthure,' the 'Gest of the Brute,' the 'Adventures of Sir Gawyn,' and the 'Pystyl of Swete Susan.' Winton says—'It becomes all men to love Hucheon, who was cunning in literature, curious in 'his style, eloquent and subtile; and who clothed his composition in appropriate 'metre, so as always to raise delyte and pleasure.'[3] Sir Hugh married, after

[1] 'Charter penes burgum de Irvine.' Craufurd's Peerage, p. 126.

[2] Vol. ii. pp. 3–15. No. 4–19.

[3] Chronicle, vol. i. p. 121. 'I think there cannot be 'any doubt, whether Sir Hugh de Eglynton were not 'Hucheon of the 'Awle Ryale.'' [Letter, Mr. George Chalmers to Mr. David Laing, and quoted in his introduction to the Pystyl of Swete Susan.]

October 1357, Egidia Stewart, half sister of Robert II., and widow of Sir James Lindsay of Crawford. Sir Hugh died between the 26th June and 10th December 1377. He was survived by his wife, Egidia Stewart, who married for her third husband, James Douglas of Dalkeith, and an only daughter, Elizabeth, married to Sir John Montgomerie of Eglesham.[1]

Sir Hugh of Eglintoun had a nephew, John of Eglintoun, who, as his heir-male, granted a charter of confirmation of the lands of Ratho, which bears to have been 'sealed by himself and Alexander Ramsay of Dalhousie, his kinsman,' without date.[2]

John of Eglintoun thus became the heir-male of the family, on the death of his uncle, Sir Hugh, in 1377. No further notice of John has been found.

[1] Charter of Approbation and Ratification by Egidia Lindsay, spouse to umquhile Hew of Eglintoun, in her widowhood, confirming to Allan Lauder all alienations made by Thomas Cripnay to Allan Lauder, and that for all the days of her lifetime, of the lands of Westhall and Northraw of Ratho, reserving to her the annualrent of 4 merks 6 shillings furth thereof. Sealed at North-berwick, 10th December 1377, with her brother's seal, William Lindsay of Byres. Elizabeth of Eglintoun, daughter and heiress of Sir Hugh, confirmed the lands of Westhall of Ratho, 'in her lauful widow head, with consent of her 'friends,' by a charter, without date. [Lauderdale Inventory of Titles of Ratho and Platts.] These writs are now only known through an inventory prepared in 1623 — the originals being lost. Some discussion has arisen as to the parentage of Elizabeth de Eglintoun, in consequence of an awkwardly worded passage in Crawfurd's Remarks on the Ragman Roll. From this it has been inferred that the marriage of Elizabeth took place in the year 1361. On consulting the authorities given by Crawfurd in his Peerage for this date, it will be seen that it refers, not to the marriage of Elizabeth, but to the time when Sir Hugh de Eglintoun was Justiciary of Scotland.

[2] Lauderdale Inventory.

THE ARDROSSANS OF THAT ILK.

[1177–1377].

This family possessed Ardrossan from a very early period. They are said to have been a branch of the ancient family of Barclay, or Berkeley, who acquired considerable landed property in Ayrshire. The first bearing the name of Ardrossan who appears recorded is—

1. Arthur of Ardrossan, who witnessed a charter by Alan, the son of Walter the Steward of Scotland, to Adam the son of Gilbert, of the lands of Tarbolton and others, without date; but it must have been between the year 1177, when Alan succeeded his father, and the year 1204, when he died. This charter was confirmed by James, the Steward of Scotland.[1] The same Arthur of Ardrossan, or his son of the same name, witnessed a charter by Alan, Lord of Galloway, to Hugh of Crawford, of the lands of Monock, in 1226.[2] Hugh de Ardrossan witnessed another charter by Alan to Hugh Crawford.[3] Arthur was probably the father of—

2. Sir Fergus Ardrossan of that Ilk, mentioned in a cause between Sir Godfrey of Ross and the town of Irvine, in 1260.[4] Sir Fergus of Ardrossan is one of the witnesses to a charter by Alexander de Dunhon, Knight, to Sir Patrick the Graham, of several lands, without date.[5] Sir Fergus was probably the father of—

3. Godfrey of Ardrossan, who swore fealty to Edward I. in 1296. The letter of homage is preserved in the Chapter House, Westminster, with the Seal appended, an engraving of which is here given. He was probably father of—

4. Fergus of Ardrossan, and Robinus of Ardrossan, his brother, who signed the instrument recognizing Edward, on the surrender of Stirling Castle, in 1304.[6] This Fergus was probably the father of—

5. Hugh of Ardrossan, who, when Edward granted an indemnity to the Scots, in 1305, had a fine of three years' rental of his estate imposed upon him. He was probably the father of—

6. Fergus of Ardrossan, who received from Robert Bruce a charter of his lands of Ardrossan, in the following terms—

[1] Original Charter of Confirmation in Montrose Charter-chest.

[2] Original Charter in Loudon Charter-chest, quoted by Mr. George Crawford from a transcript made by him.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Robertson's Cuninghame, p. 159.

[5] Original Charter at Buchanan.

[6] Robertson's Cuninghame, p. 159.

'Robertus, etc. Sciatis nos dedisse, concesisse, et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse 'Fergusio de Ardrossane, militi, dilecto et fideli nostro, vt habeat, teneat, et possideat, pro se et 'heredibus suis, de nobis et heredibus nostris, omnes terras suas de Ardrossane, cum pertinenciis, 'in feodo et hereditate, per omnes rectas metas et diuisas suas, in vnam, integram, et liberam 'baroniam, cum tenandiis terrarum Willielmi de Potteconille, Ricardo de Boyuille, Laurencii de 'Mora, Gilberti de Cunyngburgh, Willelmi Ker, Ricardi de Kelcou, et tocius terre et tenementi 'del Lin, infra tenementum de Dalry; cum furca et fossa, soc et sac, thole, et theme, et infang-'andthef, et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus, commoditatibus, aysiamentis, et iustis pertinenciis 'suis, libere, quiete, plenarie, et honorifice: Faciendo inde nobis et heredibus nostris, dictus 'Fergusius et heredes sui, seruicium debitum et consuetum, et vnam sectam ad curiam nostram 'vicecomitatus de Are, ad singula placita nostra tenenda ibidem: In cuius rei, etc.'[1]

Fergus was probably the father of—

7. Godfrey, Lord of Ardrossan, who is a witness to several charters in the reign of David II.; and no later male representative of the family of Ardrossan has been traced.

Ardrossan Castle stood on a hill in the vicinity of the modern town of Ardrossan, and was a place of great strength, as appears from the ruins. It was inhabited in the time of Oliver Cromwell, who caused it to be demolished. The materials were shipped to Ayr, to aid in building the fortifications erected there by Cromwell. When Timothy Pont wrote his account of Cuninghame, Ardrossan Castle was entire, and he has left a vivid description of the place. He says—'This castell is verry 'strongly and veill bulte, having in it maney roumes, and a spring of frech vatter, 'wich makes it the more strong. In this castell ther is a touer, named the read touer, 'and in a vaulte called Vallace Lardner, for this castell being in the possessione of 'the Englisch, Vallace vsed this stratageme. He sett a housse hard by the castell 'a-fyre, that thesse quho keipt the castell, not suspecting aney fraud, came out to the 'reskeu of the housse, quhome they imagined by accident to have taken fyre. Bot 'Vallace, vith a veill armed companey, gifs them a very hote velcome, and kills them 'evrey mother's sone, and furthwith forces the castell and vins it. In this deep vaulte, 'in the bottome of the read touer flange he the carcathes of these Englisch, vich to this 'day, gave it the name of Vallace Lardner. There is one thing to be admired in the 'fontaine of frech vatter, vich is in a vault in this castell, for it, lyke to the sea, ebbs 'and flowes two severall tymes each 24 hours.

[1] Reg. Mag. Sig., p. 10, 51.

' Its bankes to passe doeth tueisse assay,
' And tueisse againe reteir each day.

' The ressone is, from the ebbing and flouing of the salt sea, vich enuirrons the rocke ' quheron the castell standes, and at each surge uith horrible repercussions regorges ' the frech water, not letting isseu from its spring, and so makes the fontaine suell. ' This castell was for many ages possessed by the Barclayss, for in a charter of Sir ' Richard Moruell, Lord of Cuninghame, etc., to the monastery of Kilvining, Richardus ' de Berclay dominus de Ardrossen is a vittnes.' [1]

The present account of the Ardrossan family, however meagre, contains all notices of it that can be found. It is given here, because it is generally supposed that the barony of Ardrossan came into the Eglinton family through a marriage.

THE MONTGOMERIES OF EAGLESHAME, CONTINUED.

IX. Sir John de Montgomerie, tenth of Eagleshame, also of Eglinton and Ardrossan [1398-1429],

Succeeded his father before 1398. His usual style and designation in charters was Sir John Montgomerie, Knight, Lord of Ardrossan.

Sir John took part in the inroad into England, under Archibald, third Earl of Douglas, and brother of Earl James, who fell at Otterburn. In 1402 the Earl, accompanied by many of the Scottish nobility, entered England at the head of 12,000 men, and Sir John was one of the chiefs of the invading army. On their way back they were overtaken by the English under the Percys near Homeldon Hill on the English borders. A desperate battle ensued, in which the Scots were completely defeated, leaving an immense number killed, wounded and prisoners in the hands of the English, and amongst the last the great Douglas himself, and Sir John Montgomerie. Sir John very soon regained his liberty, by ransom or otherwise, for in 1404, he was in Scot-

[1] Timothy Pont's Cuningham Topographized, 4to. p. 7.

land, and introduced at the court of his sovereign, Robert III., the reputed Richard II. of England. The circumstances are thus related by Tytler — King Richard II., it was affirmed, had actually escaped from Pontefract, and had found means to convey himself, in the disguise of a poor traveller, to the Western or Outer Isles of Scotland, where he was accidentally discovered by a lady, who had known him in Ireland. He was treated with great kindness, and given in charge to 'the Lord of Montgowmery,' who carried him to the court of Robert III. where he was received with honour. He lived in the palace within the castle of Stirling, and dying there about nineteen years after his escape from England, was buried with the name, state, and honours of that unfortunate monarch, Richard II.[1]

Sir John was called upon to perform many important duties. Archibald, Earl of Douglas, who, with Sir John and many others, fell into the hands of the Percys at the disastrous battle of Homeldon Hill, soon after entered into league, if not into friendship, with his captors. And when those powerful nobles, in the following year, rose in arms against their sovereign, Henry IV., Douglas fought side by side with them in the sanguinary battle of Shrewsbury, and after performing many prodigies of valour, was wounded and taken prisoner by the King's party after the defeat of the Percys. On the 21st September 1405 Sir John Montgomerie obtained letters of safe conduct to England to treat for the ransom of his old commander, but his mission was unsuccessful. On the 1st November of the year following he returned to England on the same errand, and on the 20th April 1408 delivered himself up as a hostage for Douglas. He was not long detained on this occasion, for he was in Scotland in the year 1412; and in 1413 was residing at his recently built castle of Polnone, where he granted a charter on the 24th November of that year.[2] The Seal appended to this charter is here engraved. Sir John was one of the hostages sent to England in 1423 for the ransom of James I. The names of the hostages, with a statement of the yearly income of each, is still preserved. Sir John is thus entered in the list: 'Johannes de Montgomery, miles de Ardrossane, vel 'filius ejus et hæres ad vij c. marc.' The value of this income can only be judged of by comparison with the incomes of the other hostages. The Earls of Strathern and Angus and Lord Gordon, are set down with the respec-

[1] History of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 401, third Edition; and Winton's Chronicle, ii. 389.

[2] Vol. ii. p. 21, No. 26. A lithograph of this charter will be found in the same volume.

tive incomes of five, six, and four hundred merks each.[1] Again, Sir John returned immediately, for the following year he was one of the great barons arrested by James I. at the Parliament held at Perth. It is remarkable that after this, Sir John and other six of those barons formed part of the jury on the trial of Murdoch, Duke of Albany, Walter and Alexander Stewart, his sons, and the Earl of Lennox, which took place at Stirling in May 1425. Tytler thinks it probable, that Sir John and the other six jurymen were persons attached to Albany, and that the intention of the King, in their imprisonment, was to compel them to abandon Albany to his fate.[2] Soon after the trial of Albany, Sir John Montgomerie was sent to reduce the fortress on Lochlomond, which was held against James I. by Albany's youngest son, Sir James Stewart. Sir John died before 22nd November 1429.

Sir John married, first, Agnes of the Isles, who died before 9th March 1413, on which date she is mentioned as deceased in a charter by the Regent Albany, to be afterwards referred to. Secondly, before 1427, Margaret, daughter of Robert Maxwell of Carlaverock, ancestor of the Earls of Nithsdale. Sir John had three sons and three daughters. It is certain that the eldest and second sons were by his first marriage; but it does not appear which of his wives was mother of the third son and the daughters.

1. Alexander, created Lord Montgomerie.

2. Robert of Giffen. By charter, dated 9th March 1413, the Regent Albany confirmed the grants made by John of Montegomerie of Ardrossan, Knight, to Robert, his son, of the lordship of Giffen in Kyle Stewart, the lands of Lochhouse in Linlithgowshire, Knokintire and Knokmuline in Kyle Regis, and other subjects. This charter has been lithographed, and will be found in the second volume.[3]

3. Hugh, mentioned in a charter of Alexander, first Lord Montgomerie, dated at Polnoon, 29th July 1452.[4]

4. Anne, married to Sir Robert Cunningham of Kilmaurs, ancestor of the Earls of Glencairn. Their contract of marriage is dated 16th June 1425.[5] The contract contains this provision: 'And gyfe it hapyns the said Schir Jone of Mungumry 'nocht to ga in hostage for the kyng, he sal hald the said Anny, his dochtir, and a 'damyscile with hir,[6] and Sir Robert's reasonable repayr for twa zer in met and drynk, 'and buch of court, with sex horssis fyndyng, at the liking of the said Schir Robert;

[1] Rymer's Fœdera, x. 307.
[2] Tytler's History, iii. 73. 3rd Edition.
[3] Vol. ii. p. 21, No. 27.
[4] Eglinton Writs.
[5] Vol. ii. p. 8, No. 7.
[6] Mr. Wood, in his Peerage, i. 495, has misprinted this passage awkwardly, as may be seen by comparison.

'and gife he gais in hostage, the said Schir Robert sal se for his wyfe himself.' On 20th February 1432 Robert of Conyngham, Knycht, Lord of Kylmauris, granted a discharge to ane mychte and a reuerende Lord Alexander Mungumry, Lord of Ardrossan, for 300 markis and forty pounds, because of mariage of Angnes of Mungumry, his sister, and the said Sir Robert.[1]

5. Joanna, married to Sir Thomas Boyd of Kilmarnock. 'In this church,' Kilmarnock, 'ar divers of the Lord Boydes progenitors buried, amongs quhome ther 'is one tombe or stone bearing this inscription and coat—'Hic jacet Thomas Boyde, ''Dominus de Killmarnock, qui obiit septimo die mensis July 1432, et Johanna de ''Montgomery eius sponsa. Orate pro iis.''[2]

6. Isabella, married to Archibald Mure of Rowallan.

Sir John Montgomerie was the last commoner of the family who possessed Eglesham. His eldest son Alexander, was created a peer by the title of Lord Montgomerie.

THE LORDS MONTGOMERIE

BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE EARLDOM OF EGLINTOUN.

[1444–1506.]

X. Alexander, First Lord Montgomerie [1429–1470],

Succeeded his father, Sir John, before the 22nd November 1429, as on that date 'Alex-'ander de Montgomerie, Lord of that Ilk,' acted as one of the assise in an action between the burghs of Renfrew and Dumbarton.[3] Sir Alexander was distinguished for his loyalty to James I. and II., and under both of them he held several responsible offices, and executed very important commissions with regard to the affairs of the State. He had a joint commission with his brother-in-law, Sir Robert Cunningham of Kilmaurs, for the government and defence of Kyntyre and Knapdale, of date 10th August 1430.[4]

[1] Vol. ii. p. 9, No. 8.
[2] Timothy Pont's Cuningham Topographized, 4to., p. 16.
[3] Wishaw's Lanarkshire, App. p. 284.
[4] Vol. ii. p. 27, No. 35.

He was a member of Privy Council, and was employed in many important negotiations with England. Alexander, Lord of Montgomery, is mentioned, with other councillors of the King, in an indenture anent the earldom of Mar, dated 10th August 1440.[1] He was one of the commissioners sent to England in 1438 to procure a truce. In 1444 Alexander, Lord Montgomerie, was allowed £41 out of the customs of Edinburgh in part of his expenses in England for making the truce at Durham.[2] In 1449 and 1451 he was occupied with similar negotiations. He was one of the nobles who affixed their seals to the instrument passed by the Parliament, held at Perth on the 9th June 1445, against those lords who had rebelled against James II. He again procured a truce with England in 1459, and in 1460 he passed into England regarding the same treaty, accompanied by a train of twenty persons. This is his last public service of which mention has been made, though he survived for about ten years, as appears from a charter by him of the lands of Sannocks in Arran, to his second son, George Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, in the year 1469.[3]

The important public services of Sir Alexander seem to have been neither overlooked nor undervalued by his royal masters. He was made a Lord of Parliament, with the title of Lord Montgomerie, before 3rd July 1445, when he was named as one of the Lords of Parliament in the charter of erection of the lordship of Hamilton. He also received more substantial rewards in the shape of many grants of valuable lands, by charters under the Great Seal, between 1430 and 1453.[4]

Alexander, first Lord Montgomerie, married Margaret, second daughter of Sir Thomas Boyd of Kilmarnock, father of the first Lord Boyd, and by her had four sons and three daughters —

1. Alexander, Master of Montgomerie.

2. George, ancestor of the Montgomeries of Skelmorlie, an account of whom will be found under that branch.

3. John, who seems to have had property in the barony of Giffen, as he is designated John de Montgomerie of Giffen in a proclamation at Irvine, on 13th August 1488, by Carrick pursuivant. He was ancestor of the Comtes and Marquis de Montgomery, into which family, in 1543, the feudal county of Montgomery re-entered in the person of Jacques de Montgomery, Seigneur de Lorges. There are now no descen-

[1] Miscellany of the Spalding Club, vol. v. p. 263.
[2] Chamberlain or Exchequer Rolls, 1444.
[3] Skelmorlie Writs.
[4] Vol. ii. pp. 27, 33. Nos. 35, 41, 42.

dants of John in the male line, but the Marquis de Thiboutat is the heir general of the family.[1]

4. Thomas, parson of Eaglesham, who was elected rector of the University of Glasgow in 1476, and held that office for several years.[2]

5. Margaret, married John Stewart of Darnley, afterwards created Lord Darnley, and who became Earl of Lennox. From this marriage descended James VI., and through him the subsequent sovereigns of Great Britain. The original indenture for this marriage is dated 15th May 1438,[3] and shows that Margaret was then the eldest daughter of Alexander of age for marriage.

6. Elizabeth, married before 25th March 1460 John, second Lord Kennedy, and was mother of David, created Earl of Cassillis, who fell at Flodden in 1513.

7. Agnes married, about 1470, William Cuninghame of Glengarnock.

Alexander, first Lord Montgomerie, died about 1470.

XI. ALEXANDER, MASTER OF MONTGOMERIE, ELDEST SON OF FIRST LORD [1430–1452],

HAD a grant from James II., dated 31st January 1448, of the office of Bailie of the barony of Cuninghame, in which he is designated 'Alexandro de Montgumry filio 'primogenito dilecti consanguinei nostri Alexandri Domini Montgumry.'

Alexander, Master of Montgomerie, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Adam Hepburn of Hailes, and by her had three sons and one daughter —

1. Alexander, second Lord Montgomerie.

2. Robert. A charter was granted by Alexander, Lord Montgomerie, in 1452, of the lands of Braidstone, 'dilecto suo nepoti Roberto Montgomery.' From him descended Sir Hugh Montgomerie, created Viscount of Ardes in Ireland, whose descendant Hugh, Viscount Ardes, was created Earl of Mount-Alexander, which title became extinct in 1757 by the failure of the male descendants of the Earl.

3. Hugh of Hesilheid. His descendant Robert had an only daughter, who was married to Macaulay of Ardincaple.

4. Margaret became the second wife of Alexander, first Lord Home. Their eldest son was Thomas Home of Langshaw.

Alexander, Master of Montgomerie, died in 1452, in the lifetime of his father, as

[1] Captain Montgomerie's MS. It must be noticed, however, that there is no evidence showing that John was son of Lord Montgomerie.

[2] Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis, vol. ii. p. 86, *et seq.*

[3] Vol. ii. p. 28, No. 37.

appears from a retour, dated 17th June 1466, bearing that Alexander de Montgomery, father of Alexander de Montgomery, had then been dead fourteen years.[1]

XII. Alexander, second Lord Montgomerie [1470–1483],

Succeeded his grandfather, the first Lord, about 1470. Some have supposed that this is the person mentioned in two or three charters between 1450 and 1465, &c., and specially in an indenture, dated at Stirling 10th February 1465, according to which Robert Lord Fleming on the one part, and Gilbert Lord Kennedy and Sir Alexander Boyd on the other, bind themselves to stand by each other in all quarrels in which any of them may be engaged. Amongst those exempted, as friends of Boyd and Kennedy, is Lord Montgomerie.[2] But these notices are applicable to the first Lord Montgomerie, as appears from a bond of friendship, granted on 20th January 1465, by Robert Lord Boyd to Gilbert Lord Kennedy, in which there is excepted the bonds by Lord Boyd to Alexander Lord Montgomerie, Alexander Montgomerie his son's son and apparent heir.[3] There is very little authentic information now extant regarding the second Lord Montgomerie. He had a charter, in which he is styled grandson and heir of Alexander Lord Montgomerie, and Catherine Kennedy, daughter of Gilbert Lord Kennedy, his wife, of the lands of Bonnington and Pilton, in the county of Edinburgh, on the resignation of his grandfather. This charter is without date. The next to it, in the record of the Great Seal, is of the year 1459. He and Catherine his wife resigned Pilton to Alexander Lord Montgomerie, who had a charter of those lands, dated 25th October 1465.[4] He was served heir to his father in the bailiary of Cuninghame on 17th June 1466. He had three sons and one daughter.

1. Hugh, third Lord Montgomerie and first Earl of Eglintoun.

2. John, of Bowhouse. John Montgomerie, brother of Hew Earl of Eglintoun, is mentioned as one of the depute bailies of Cuninghame, in an instrument of protest, dated 31st July 1509.[5] He married a daughter of Ramsay of Montfode but had no children.

3. James Montgomerie, brother-german of Hew Earl of Eglintoun, named as one of the bailies in a precept of sasine by the Earl for infefting John Knokis, sone and ayr of umquhile Huchter Knokis, of the lands of Monok, in the barony of Ardrossan, as appears from the instrument of sasine, dated 4th July 1517.[6]

John and James Montgomerie, brothers-german of Hew Lord Montgomerie, are two

[1] Vol. ii. p. 36, No. 45.
[2] Original Indenture at Cumbernauld.
[3] Original, Ailsa Charter-chest.
[4] Reg. Mag. Sig. l. vi. 49.
[5] Vol. ii. p. 70, No. 85.
[6] At Eglinton.

of the inquest, on the service of Alexander Montgomerie of Giffen, 26th November 1501.[1] James Montgomerie, brother to Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, was fined £100, as one of the Earl's cautioners, on 26th June 1526.[2]

4. Helen married Sir James Bruce of Airth.[3]

Alexander, second Lord Montgomerie, died before 29th August 1483, when his eldest son, Hugh Lord Montgomerie, granted a charter of the lands of Bar.[4]

THE EARLS OF EGLINTOUN OF THE HOUSE OF MONTGOMERIE [1506–1612].

XIII. Hugh, third Lord Montgomerie, first Earl of Eglintoun [1483–1545],

Was born about the year 1460, and appears to have succeeded his father Alexander, the second lord, about 1483. He was infeft in the lordship of Ardrossan and other estates of the family, on 5th June 1484.[5] Lord Montgomerie was one of the Commissioners appointed by the treaty of Nottingham, 22nd September 1484, to settle disputes on the marches.[6] On the 11th of October in the same year, being then about twenty-four years of age, he executed a deed of revocation of all grants made by himself, or by any person or persons in his name, during his minority.[7] A few years afterwards, the young Lord Montgomerie espoused the cause of the nobles of Scotland, headed by the Prince, in their quarrel with his unfortunate father, James III. At the battle of Sauchieburn, which was fought between the hostile parties on the 11th June 1488, Lord Montgomerie appeared in arms in support of the Prince and his party, who were the victors on that occasion. The services rendered by Lord Montgomerie in this battle were acknowledged in a remission granted to his lordship by King James IV., on 14th October 1488, for spoiling and destroying the house of Turnelaw [Kerrielaw], and for all other crimes and offences committed by him before the 29th of August preceding.[8]

Lord Montgomerie having thus espoused the cause of James IV. occupied a high place in his favour. He was in the first Parliament of that monarch, held at Edinburgh

[1] Vol. ii. p. 61, No. 74.
[2] Criminal Trials, i. 132.*
[3] Captain Montgomerie's MS.
[4] Vol. ii. p. 44, No. 56.
[5] Ibid. p. 45, No. 57.
[6] Fœdera, xii. 241.
[7] Vol. ii. p. 47, No. 59.
[8] Ibid. p. 48, No. 60. The name in the MS. is Turnelaw; but this, doubtless, is a clerical error for Kerrielaw, a residence of the Glencairn family, in the parish of Stevenston. The ruins of the once massive walls of the castle, which still remain, show that it must have been a place of great strength, and not easily 'spoiled' by Lord Montgomerie. On the other hand, there is a place called Turnelaw, in the parish of Leny, which, in the beginning of the 17th century, belonged to a family of the name of Hamilton. [Records of the Commissary Court of Glasgow, 11th March and June 1615, and November 1617.]

in October 1488, and was then chosen one of the commissioners to punish offenders, and to put down the crimes of theft, robbery and murder, in the districts of Carrick, Kyle, Ayr and Cuninghame. In the year following, he was chosen one of his Majesty's Privy Council. He received grants of various lands from the Crown. On 17th October 1488, he got a life grant of the lands of Arran, in Bute, and the Castle of Brodick. In 1489, he had a charter of the Castle and Constabulary of Rothesay. On the 4th June, same year, he obtained a charter of the offices of Bailie of Cuninghame and Chamberlain of Irvine.[1] On the 3rd February 1499, he obtained a new charter of the lands of Roberton in Cuninghame, to himself and his wife Helen Campbell.[2] He obtained a charter of the lands of Ascog in Bute, 20th March 1503-4; one of Giffen and other lands, 23rd April 1505; and one of Lochliboside, 27th November 1506.

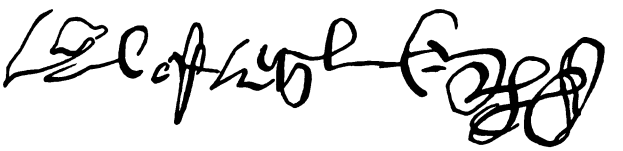
Lord Montgomerie was created Earl of Eglintoun in the end of the year 1506. The patent of this peerage has not been preserved, but the creation must have taken place between the 3rd of January 1506, on which date Hugh is styled Lord Montgomerie, and the 20th of the same month, when he is styled Earl of Eglinton.[3]

In the pleadings for the Earl of Craufurd and Balcarres, in support of his claim to the Dukedom of Montrose, created in 1488, he found it necessary to maintain that the first Earl of Eglintoun was created Earl of Montgomerie in 1503. Lord Craufurd stated, that a Comes Mungumry sat in Parliament in 1503, and that the title of 'Earl Montgomery' was occasionally and duly applied to every one of the early Earls of Eglinton (with the exception of the fourth Earl, who perished within a few months after his accession to the title) — viz., to Hugh, the first Earl, signing himself Erle of Mungumry, in 1516; to Dame Marioun Setoun, Countess of Muntgumry, the wife of Hugh, second Earl of Eglinton, in 1551-2; to Hew Earl of Montgomery, the third Earl of Eglinton, in 1567; to Hugh Earl of Montgomery, the fifth Earl, in 1590; and to Alexander Erle of Montgomrie, the sixth Earl, in 1619.[4]

These instances of the occasional application of the title of Earl of Montgomery to several of the Earls of Eglintoun, are not founded on genuine evidence, but on errors accidentally committed in making up certain records in the course of more than a century. The alleged ranking of 'Comes Montgomery' in 1503, was held by Lord Loughborough, in the Glencairn case, to be an error in the record, in marking Lord Montgomery, and this is entirely borne out by Crown charters, under the Great Seal, in favour of 'Hugh Lord Montgomery,' in 1503-4, 1505 and 1506, down till his creation as Earl of Eglintoun in the end of that year. The alleged subscription of 'Erle of Munt-

[1] Vol. ii. p. 54, No. 66. [2] Ibid. p. 58, No. 70. [3] Eglinton Writs. [4] Report of Montrose Claim, by Lord Lindsay. London, 1855, fol. p. lix.

'gumry' in 1516, by the first Earl of Eglintoun, is equally an error. The original contract, to which this name is said to be appended, is not forthcoming, but it is registered in the Books of Council. 'Hew Erle of Eglintoun,' as he is described in the body of the instrument, is one of the parties to the contract, and 'Eglintoun' is also one of the Earls entered in the Sederunt of Council of the date of registration. Throughout the whole contract, there is no mention of an 'Earl of Muntgumry;' and the mistake which was committed consisted in the scribe, when entering in the Record the names of the subscribing parties, erroneously inserting 'Erle of Mungumry' for 'Erl of Eglintoun.'[1] There is, however, some excuse for the carelessness of the recorder, on account of the very indistinct signature of the Earl, as may be seen from the specimen here given—



As to the next instance, Dame Marioun Setoun was Countess of Eglintoun, but never Countess of Montgomery. The quotation to the contrary, by Lord Lindsay, is made from another portion of the same inaccurate Record of the Court of Session, and it is a manifest mistake. Numerous instances of similar mistakes in names might be cited. For example, in one of the Exchequer Rolls, Margaret Carmichael, who was Dowager Duchess of Montrose, is called Duchess of *Crauford*—an obvious blunder, which no person would think of adducing as genuine evidence that there ever was a Duke or Duchess of Crauford. Here is the way in which Dame Marion Seton gave her true title of Countess of Eglintoun under her own hand—

Two other instances quoted by Lord Lindsay, are of the third and fourth Earls of Eglinton being styled Earls of Montgomerie in 1567 and 1590. But these are taken from the same inaccurate Court of Session Record, and are at best but secondary evidence even in it; the former being narrated from an act of a Justice Court, and the latter from the mere marginal marking in the Record. No weight can be attached to such feeble testimony. The last instance quoted is from Sir David Lindsay's 'Collectanea,'

[1] Greater errors than those now adverted to were occasionally committed in official state documents. In the list of the Scottish nobles, dated May 1584, which is in the handwriting of no less a statesman than William Lord Burghley, the third Earl of Eglintoun is made to represent two separate and distinct peers. He stands for an Earl of Montgomerie who never existed, and for the Earl of Eglintoun. [List in State Paper Office, vol. xxxvi. No. 113.]

and refers to the sixth Earl of Eglinton being there calléd 'Erle of Montgomerie.' These Collectanea are mere loose jottings, and not equal in authority even to the Records of the Court of Session, in which so many errors have been shown. The sixth Earl of Eglintoun invariably subscribed himself 'Eglintoun,' as may be seen from his letters printed in the following pages; and in all charters and authentic instruments in which he is named, he is always styled Earl of Eglintoun, never Earl of Montgomerie.

After his creation as Earl of Eglintoun, his lordship received several royal charters from King James IV. He had a charter to Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie, of the lands of Kirkhead in Cuninghame, 27th June 1509.

By the untimely death of James IV. at Flodden in 1513, the Earl of Eglintoun was deprived of a Sovereign, whose cause he had espoused even before his succession to the throne, and from whom, in return, his lordship had received advancement in the peerage, and many other marks of royal favour. The same unshaken loyalty which Lord Eglintoun had shown to James IV. he continued to show to his son James V., who was an infant of only a year and a half old when his father fell at Flodden. During his long minority, the Earl of Eglintoun was called upon to take a prominent part in the management of public affairs. He sat in the Parliament which was held at Stirling on the 19th September 1513, and which fixed the 21st December following for the coronation of the infant King James V. At the same time, the Queen-dowager was constituted interim regent of the realm,[1] and the Earl of Eglintoun was appointed one of those counsellors, without whose advice she was restricted from transacting any State business of difficulty or importance. Towards the end of the same year, John Duke of Albany being called from France and constituted governor of the kingdom, and protector of the young King's person, the Earl of Eglintoun was one of the noblemen to whom the Duke intrusted the tuition of his royal charge. On the 21st February 1526, his lordship was appointed Justice-General of the northern districts of Scotland, till the King should attain the perfect age of twenty-five. And in 1528, he was one of the nobles appointed to meet King James V. at Stirling, when he made his escape from Douglas at Falkland. In the influential position which he thus occupied, the Earl seems to have had opportunities of acquiring many valuable estates, by availing himself of which he added largely to the territorial possessions of his family. He received several charters and grants of land between the years 1513 and 1528. He and Helen Campbell, his wife, had charters of the lands of Eastwood, on the 15th December 1515. A charter of the lands of Dreghorn was granted to him on the

[1] Balfour's Annals.

30th May 1520. He and his wife received one of the lands of Langside, in the barony of Cathcart, 26th July 1527. And one of the lands of Worthill in Ayrshire, which had been forfeited by Archibald Douglas of Kilspindie, was granted to himself, 5th September 1528.

The office of the Bailiary of Cuninghame, which was conferred on Lord Eglintoun's grandfather, Alexander Master of Montgomerie, by James II. in 1448, had ever since been a subject of contention between the Eglintoun and Glencairn families. Forty years posterior to the grant, Glencairn's Castle was destroyed, as we have already seen, by Lord Montgomerie, in retaliation probably for some invasion on the part of Glencairn. Ten years later, on 17th February 1498, Lord Montgomerie took the precaution of requiring Cuthbert Lord Kilmaurs to find security for his followers keeping the peace.[1] The rivals then had recourse to a submission to the Bishop of Moray, the Earls of Angus, Argyll and Cassillis, and Lord Borthwick, who by decreet-arbitral, pronounced on 12th January 1509, found that the Earl of Eglintoun had full and heritable right to the office of the Bailiary of Cuninghame, and though a breach was thus for the time averted, the Glencairn family, dissatisfied with the decision, still kept up the feud. Another attempt to pacify the belligerents was made by the Regent Albany in 1523, through the not uncommon expedient of marriage between a son and a daughter of the rival houses; but this failed, and the feud continued to rage. In the Parliament held on 17th November 1526, Earl Cuthbert asked documents that 'my Lord of Arran 'declared, if the Earl of Eglintoun would not make friends and pass to concord, anent 'all matters debateable betwixt the said Earls of Eglintoun and Glencairn, that the 'said Earl of Eglintoun should nowise have the said Earl of Arran's heart nor his help 'in time to come.' These attempts at accommodation were unsuccessful. The destruction of Kerelaw had to be avenged; and before long an opportunity presented itself to the Master of Glencairn and his adherents. They then set fire to and burnt Eglintoun Castle. In this conflagration the charters of the family were consumed. This loss necessarily deprives the present volumes of much of the interest which would have attached to them, as amongst those charters were probably the earliest records of the Montgomeries of Eagleshame, the Eglintouns of Eglintoun, and the Ardrossans of Ardrossan. The loss was ill supplied by a grant under the Great Seal in 1528, reciting the destruction of the family muniments in the manner now mentioned.[2] The destruction of Eglinton Castle is a single incident in the history of the feud which long raged between the families of Montgomerie and Cuninghame. It is but one of many

[1] Eglinton Papers.

[2] Vol. ii. p. 109, No. 117.

similar occurrences in that part of Scotland, arising from the bitterness with which family feuds were carried on. In an encounter which took place in the beginning of the sixteenth century, between John Mure of Caldwell and Sir John Maxwell of Nether Pollock, the Earl of Eglintoun seems to have saved the life of the latter from being taken by Caldwell. The criminal indictment against Caldwell is printed among the Caldwell Papers.[1] It charges him with having attempted to slay Maxwell, 'and 'violentlie and maisterfullie brocht thame bak quhair they was ryedand to the place 'of Eglingtone, ye beand dwelland thairintill and maistir thairof for the tyme; and 'held him and his serveand in captivitie, and oppressit thame thairbye, and had slane 'thame and they had nocht obeyit your wikit will, fra ye ane day att twa houres efter 'noine, quhill the morne thairefter att ten houres befoir noine or thairbye; Quhill the 'Erlle of Eglingtone send his servandis, . . . quhilk with greit instance and sup-'plicatioune gat the said Johne and his servand releissit agane, and brocht thame to 'the said Erle of Eglingtone his house of Ardrossane for thair saiftie fra your maister-'full tirannie.'

The Earl of Eglintoun was, on the 18th August 1533, appointed Admiral-depute within the bounds of Cuninghame, by Patrick Earl Bothuill, Great Admiral of Scotland.[2] His last official appointment seems to have been conferred on him in 1536, when on the King resolving to proceed to France for his bride, the Princess Magdalene, the Earl of Eglintoun, the Archbishops of St. Andrews and Glasgow, the Earls of Huntlie and Montrose, and Lord Maxwell, were constituted joint governors of Scotland during their Sovereign's absence.[3] James Kirkcaldy of Grange, treasurer to King James V., granted on 22nd December 1539, a discharge for £1300 Scots for a remission then received from the King by the Earl.[4] The nature of the remission is not stated in the discharge. His lordship, after a long, laborious, and useful life, died in the end of June 1545, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. It is worthy of remark, that he lived in the time of five Scottish sovereigns — having been born in the last year of the reign of James II., and died in the third year of Queen Mary.

By his marriage with Lady Helen Campbell, third daughter of Colin, first Earl of Argyle, the Earl of Eglintoun had a family of six sons and eight daughters —

1. John Master of Eglintoun, who predeceased his father.

2. William of Greenfield and Stane. On the 20th January 1507, the Earl of Eglintoun entered into a contract with Robert Francis of the Stane, that his son William should marry Robert's daughter Elisabeth, and failing William, that Hugh, another son of

[1] Vol. i. part first, p. 53. [2] Vol. ii. p. 120, No. 126. [3] Vol. ii. p. 123, No. 129. [4] Original at Eglinton.

the Earl, should marry her.[1] William and Elisabeth appear to have been married before 22nd January 1508, when a charter of the lands of the Stane was granted to them. And on the 12th July 1522, the Earl of Eglintoun granted a precept for infefting Mr. William Montgomery, laird of Stane, his second son — 'dilecto meo secundo 'genito' — in the lands of Dreghorn.[2] In an old pedigree of the Montgomeries of Stane, the following account of them is given —

'Vmquhile Mr. William Montgomery, secound sone laufull to the said vmquhile Hew Erle of 'Eglintoun, first conquesar of the anuelrent foirsaid, mareit Elizabeth Francis, heretrix of the 'Stane, and be this way he and his posteritie came to the rycht of the lands of Stane.' 'Vmqu-'hile Arthur Montgomerie succeedit to the said vmquhile Mr. William his father. This Arthur 'first mareit Lucie Cairnis, heretrix of Meikle Dreghorne, and begatt vpoun hir John Mont-'gomerie of Dreghorne, that yet levis, and thereafter put hir away and mareit the laird of 'Fairlie's dochter, and begat vpoune hir Hew Montgomery, last Laird of Stane, quha succedit to 'Arthure his father to the landis of Stane, be ressoun of ane resignatioun maid in the Kinges 'handis of the landis of Stane, in favour of himself and . . . Fairlie his spous, and the 'aires laufullie gottin betuix thame. And the said Johne Montgomerie of Dreghorn being only 'air of lyne to the said vmquhile Arthure his father, succeedit to the rycht of the annualrent foir-'said, quha wes infeft thairintill be vmquhile Hew Erle of Eglintoun.' . . . 'Lykas also he 'infeft the said vmquhile Hew Montgomery of Stane, efter his mariage vpone the said Erles 'sister in the said anualrent.'[3]

3. Sir Neil Montgomerie of Langshaw or Lainshaw. He married Margaret, heiress of Quintin Mure of Skeldon, and thereby greatly increased his fortune. He added to his armorial bearing three stars, argent, the cognizance of Mure of Skeldon.[4] He was killed in a feud by the Lord Boyd and others, at Irvine, in 1547. By his marriage he had two sons and three daughters —

1. John, who married Margaret, only daughter of Robert, third Lord Boyd.
2. Sir Neil, who married Jean, heiress of John, fourth Lord Lyle, and was ancestor of the Montgomeries of Lainshaw, who are supposed to have become extinct on the death of James Montgomerie of Lainshaw, about the year 1726, without issue.[5] As representative of Sir Neil Montgomerie and Jean his wife, heiress of Lyle, he assumed the title of Lord Lyle. This title is claimed by Sir Thomas Montgomerie Cuninghame of Corsehill, Baronet, as heir general of the Lyle family. James was succeeded by his eldest sister Elizabeth Montgomerie Cuninghame of Lainshaw.

[1] Vol. ii. p. 68, No. 83.
[2] Dreghorn Writs at Eglinton.
[3] Original MS. at Eglinton.
[4] Nisbet's Heraldry.
[5] A family of the name of Montgomerie, settled in America, is at present endeavouring to prove their male descent from Sir Neil Montgomerie of Lainshaw, and Jean, heiress of Lyle. The Editor has been unable to ascertain the result of their inquiries.

3. Christian, married to Colquhoun of Luss.
4. Elizabeth, married to Sir Patrick Hume of Fastcastle, and had two daughters — one married to Logan of Restalrig, and the other, Alison, to Sir Walter Ogilvy of Dunlugus.
5. Helen, married to Maxwell of Newark. By tack dated 1st June 1564, Helen Montgomery, dochter to Umquhil Neil Montgomery of Langschaw, Knight, set to Hew, Earl of Eglinton, the lands of Holberns, etc.

4. Hugh is named in the marriage-contract of his brother William, as above mentioned. He married a daughter of John Lord Lyle in 1507, and was killed at the battle of Pinkie in 1547.

5. Robert was first rector of Kirkmichael, and was afterwards promoted to the see of Argyle. Letters of Legitimation were granted, on 9th July 1543, to Alexander, Michael, Robert, and Hugh Montgomerie, natural sons of the reverend father in Christ, Robert, Bishop of Argyle.[1]

6. Alexander died before the 13th December 1541.

The Earl's eight daughters were —

7. Lady Mariot, married, first, William, second Lord Semple, and had issue. On 8th November 1555, Dame Mariot Montgomery, Lady Symple, came in the Queen's will for ratihabition of the slaughter of Gilbert Rankyne in Lecheland, committed by the servants of the said lady on 17th March 1553, under silence of night.[2] She survived her husband, and married, secondly, before 7th August 1569, John Campbell, provost of Kilmun. Of that date, Dame Marion Montgomerie, relict of William Lord Semple, with consent of John Campbell, provost of Kilmun, her spouse, granted procuratory for renouncing all claim which she had to the lands of Willyard in Spango-Campbell.[3]

8. Lady Marjory, married William, second Lord Somerville, and had issue. They resided at Gladstone Castle, in the barony of Carnwath. There was lately found in a building at Gladstone, an ancient stone with the initial letters of V. S. and M. M., which probably stand for William Somerville and Marjory Montgomerie.

9. Lady Maude, married Colin Campbell of Ardkinglas. In 1536, King James V. granted to Colin Campbell of Ardkinglas, and Matilda Montgomery his wife, the assise herring (assise alleca, assisas halices, or assisam halecum) of the Western Sea, from the Pentland Firth to the Mwle of Galloway, and within all the Isles, and far and near as the tide (flumen maris) flows into the water of Clyde, extending yearly, in the King's rental, to six lasts of herrings, for payment yearly of six lasts and two barrels of herrings at the bridge of Glasgow, between Martinmas and Candlemas (in augmentation of

[1] Vol. ii. p. 128, No. 135. [2] Criminal Trials, *I. 381. [3] Original Procuratory at Eglinton.

the rental by two barrels). In 1542, the same King renewed the grant to Colin Campbell of Ardkinglas and Maude Montgomery his wife.[1]

10. Lady Isobel, who had a grant from her father of the ward and marriage of Robert, son of the deceased Patrick Montgomerie of Giffen, which was confirmed by King James V. on 22nd October 1515.[2] She married John Mure of Caldwell, and had issue.

11. Lady Helen, married John Blair of that Ilk. His father, John Blair of that Ilk, granted a reversion of the lands of Drummostyr and the Holmbyre, in the barony of Ardrossan, to Hew Lord Montgomerie, for payment of 500 merks as the tocher of Helen, daughter of Hew, on her marriage to John Blair, son and apparent heir of the granter, dated 15th November 1500.[3]

12. Lady Agnes, married John Ker of Kersland, and had issue.

13. Lady Jonet, married the Laird of Cessnock, as appears from the Records of Parliament, 7th November 1513, when Hew Earl of Eglintoun became surety for Jonet Montgomery, Lady of Cessnock, his daughter.[4] Besides this lawful daughter Jonet, the Earl had an illegitimate daughter of the same name. These daughters were respectively provided to the wards and marriages of Alexander Fergushill of that Ilk, and John Kerr of Kerrisland, which were confirmed by Crown grant from James V., dated 22nd October 1515.[5]

14. Lady Catherine, who had a grant from her father of the ward and marriage of George, son of the deceased Cuthbert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, which was confirmed by King James V. on 22nd October 1515.[6] She married George Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and had issue.

XIV. John Lord Montgomerie, Master of Eglintoun [1480–1520],

Was the eldest son of the first Earl of Eglintoun. On 1st June 1498, an indenture was made between Hew Lord of Mungumbrie and Sir Archibald Edmonstoun of Dunthrit, that Jhon of Mungumbrie, son and apparent heir of Lord Mungumbrie, sal marie Bessie Edmonstoun, dother to Sir Archibald.[7] John married Elizabeth Edmonstoun before 13th November 1500, on which date Hew Lord Montgomerie granted a discharge for 400 merks and £40 received by him for the 'marriage 'completit' betwixt John and Elizabeth.[8]

John seems to have taken a conspicuous part in the feuds of his own and other

[1] Origines Parochiales Scotiæ, vol. ii. part ii. p. 83, and authorities there quoted.
[2] Vol. ii. p. 82, No. 97.
[3] Drummoster Writs at Eglinton.
[4] Records of Parliament, p. 532. [Robertson's vol.]
[5] Giffen Writs at Eglinton.
[6] Vol. ii. p. 82, No. 97.
[7] Vol. ii. p. 52, No. 65.
[8] Original Discharge in Duntreath Charter-chest.

families, one of which proved fatal to him. In an early skirmish with the hereditary enemies of his house, he appears to have been the aggressor, for on the 20th January 1506, he was accused of treason for the wounding of William Cunningham, coroner of Renfrew. In the following year the Cunninghams retaliated, when John was wounded, and lives were lost on both sides. A few years later, John in his turn chastised the Cunninghams, for on 12th April 1519, William Conynghame of Cragains, and William his son, granted a discharge to John and his father for fifty merks Scots, in part of amends and assythment for the 'hurtene' of William.[1] In one of those conflicts, commonly called 'Cleanse the Causey,' which took place between the Earls of Angus and Arran, in the High Street of Edinburgh, the Master of Eglintoun was unhappily slain. Sir James Balfour briefly records the fact: 'The 2nd of Maij this same zeire [1520], 'ther was a feight in Edinburghe betuix the Earles of Arrane and Angusse, quherin 'the Earle of Eglintoun's eldest sone and Sir Patrick Hamilton wer killed. Arrane 'and hes brother, with the Archbischope of Glasgow, fled the toune.'[2]

By his marriage with Elizabeth Edmonstoun, as before mentioned, John Master of Eglintoun had three sons and one daughter —

1. Archibald, Master of Eglintoun.

2. Hugh, second Earl of Eglintoun.

3. . . . Montgomerie, whose Christian name has not been ascertained, but his existence is proved by the mention of 'John Montgomerie fatheris brothir sone' of the third Earl, in a commission by the Earl, dated 26th May 1571.[3]

4. Christian. By indenture, dated 16th February 1519, it was contracted between John Earl of Lennox, and John Master of Eglintoun, that Mathew, son of the Earl, should marry Christian Montgomery, eldest daughter of the Master, and failing of Mathew, any other son and apparent heir of the Earl.[4] Her portion was 2000 merks, which sum was paid to the Earl, as appears from a discharge under his hand and seal, dated 18th March 1520.[5] The marriage thus contracted for did not however take place, and Christian Montgomery was afterwards married to Sir James Douglas of Drumlanrig, and received from King James V., on 20th February 1540, a gift of the non-entry duties of the lands of Drumlanrig,[6] and also a charter of those lands in liferent, on the resignation of her husband.[7]

XV. 1. Archibald Master of Eglintoun [1500–1526],

Is mentioned in a charter under the Great Seal, dated 8th September 1524, confirming

[1] Original at Eglinton. [2] Annals, i. 249. [3] Original at Eglinton. [4] Vol. ii. p. 88, No. 104. [5] Ibid. p. 91, No. 105. [6] Eglinton Writs. [7] Ibid.

to Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, and his heirs and assigns, a charter of part of the barony of Kilmaurs, granted to him by Cuthbert Earl of Glencairn and William Cuningham, Master of Glencairn, his son, on the 4th of August preceding, in virtue of a decreet-arbitral between them on the one part, and Hugh Earl of Eglintoun and Archibald Master of Eglintoun, his grandson and heir, on the other part, pronounced by John Duke of Albany, tutor of King James V., 13th March 1523. This decreet ordained that a marriage should be contracted betwixt the eldest son and apparent heir of the said Earl of Glencairn with the sister of the said Archibald Montgomery, if it should seem expedient to the said Earl of Glencairn to dissolve the marriage-contract entered into for the said lady, in the hands of the Earl of Lennox, or if not, with another relation of the said Earl of Eglintoun and Master of Eglintoun, as soon as the eldest son and apparent heir of the Earl of Glencairn should be of lawful age.[1] Archibald Master of Eglintoun was on the King's side in the encounters of the royal army with Scott of Buccleuch at Melrose, and the Earl of Lennox at Linlithgow in 1526. He died soon afterwards unmarried.

XV. 2. Hugh, second Earl of Eglintoun [1545–1546],

Before his accession to the earldom by the death of his grandfather, seems to have occupied positions of distinction and responsibility. He was the Lord Montgomerie who was summoned, with the first Earl of Eglintoun, to meet King James V. at Stirling, on his escape from Falkland. He was one of the Justiciars of Scotland, the highest officers in the kingdom. This appears from the following entry in the Treasurer's accounts for 1529—'To Lord Montgomerie, 'Justice, remanand continualie at the Airis of Forfar, Perth, 'and Cowper, fra the first day of Januar to the xxiii day of 'Februar, to his expenses, i^{c} xx^{li}.' He obtained from Pope Clement VII. a dispensation, dated 21st June 1530, permitting him and Mariota Seytoun to marry, notwithstanding their being within the third degree of consanguinity.[2] Hugh, first Earl of Eglintoun, granted a precept dated at Polnone, 8th February 1530, for infefting Hew Master of Eglintoun, his grandson and apparent heir, and Mariota Seytoun, Mistress of Borthuick, sister of George Lord Seytoun, in implement of their contract of marriage, in the lands of Corslie, &c. in the county of Renfrew,[3] of which they had a charter under the Great Seal on the 15th of the same month.

[1] Eglinton Writs. [2] Vol. ii. pp. 112, 113, Nos. 119, 120. [3] Vol. ii. p. 115, No. 121.

A Commission was granted by Queen Mary for serving this Earl heir to his grandfather, the first Earl, on 3rd October 1545.[1] Owing to the raging of the plague in several of the shires in which the lands were situated, the Commissioners were empowered to hold the Courts for the service in the Court-room of Irvine. The service was expede on 4th December 1545.

Hugh Earl of Eglintoun had a charter of the lands of Tarbolton in Ayrshire, and Drumclog and Brintsnab in the county of Lanark, forfeited by Mathew Earl of Lennox, 29th December 1545.

By last will and testament, which is dated 28th and last August 1546, he directed his body to be buried in the choir of the Monastery of Kilwinning; and nominated Marion Seytoun, his wife, Hugh, his eldest son and heir, and James Houstoun, subdean of Glasgow, his executors.[3] He died at Monkredding near Kilwinning, 3rd September 1546. Hugh, his eldest son, was then under sixteen years of age. Sir Neil Montgomerie of Langshaw, who was his granduncle, but not his nearest heir-male, usurped the management of the family estates of the minor Earl, and assumed the command of the vassals and dependants. Marion Seton, the mother of the young Earl, at first resisted this interference on the part of his relative of Langshaw; but was soon induced to come to terms; and entered into an agreement with him on the 29th of September 1546, by which it was arranged that Sir Neil should act as the temporary head of the house till the Earl should attain the age of sixteen years, and that he should get possession of the Castle of Eglinton, and the ward and rents of a portion of the property. At a meeting with the Governor and Council at St. Andrews, on the 17th of November 1546, Sir Neil agreed to receive into favour several retainers of the late Earl, in terms of his last will and testament. He also became bound to the Countess to restore to her, at the Castle of Polnoon, the money, jewels, evidents and goods which he had abstracted therefrom. This arrangement did not last long, for in the following year Sir Neil was assassinated by Robert Lord Boyd. Marion, Countess of Eglinton, was tried in the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, on 28th June 1547, for being art and part in this slaughter; but she was acquitted.[4] The Countess obtained from Queen Mary, by letter of Gift under the Privy Seal, on 12th September 1548, the ward and non-entries of the earldom of Eglinton, since the death of the Earl till his heir be sixteen years of age. Countess Marion had two sons and three daughters[5]—

1. Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun.

[1] Vol. ii. p. 133, No. 139.
[2] Vol. ii. p. 136, No. 141.
[3] Vol. ii. p. 141, No. 144.
[4] Vol. ii. p. 144, No. 147.
[5] The second Earl had a natural son, Hugh Montgomery, who obtained a legitimation from Queen Mary on 9th July 1543. [Vol. ii. p. 128, No. 135.]

2. William Montgomerie, who with his brother the Earl, was educated at the University of St. Andrews. They were incorporated as students in St. Mary's College in 1552. William is on the roll immediately after his brother as 'nobilis adolescens Gulielmus 'Montgumry Germanus frater dicti Hugonis.'[1] William appears to have been styled Master of Eglintoun from his father's death in 1546, till about the year 1563. William Master of Eglintoun, witnessed a charter and precept by Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, in favour of Jane Hamiltoun, from whom the Earl was divorced, dated 24th October 1562.[2] It is presumed that he was the William Montgomerie, who, under the designation of brother-german of Hew Earl of Eglintoun, witnessed writs by him in 1565 and 1575. William Montgomerie, brother-german of Hew Earl of Eglintoun, witnessed seisin by the Earl to William Montgomerie of Hessilhead, of the lands of Meikle Dreghorn, called Loch, dated 4th June 1565.[3] William Montgomerie, brother-german of Hew Earl of Eglintoun, witnessed a decree-arbitral by the Earl, 23rd October 1575.[4] The reason for William not being called Master of Eglintoun in 1565, as he had been previously, was probably, that his brother, the third Earl, had a son born to him between these dates, his second marriage having taken place in 1562. On 5th March 1565, William Montgomerie, brother of the Earl of Eglintoun, and others, obtained a remission from King Henry (Darnley), for all crimes committed by them.[5] William died before 20th March 1593.[6] He left a natural son, William Montgomerie, who was Wardatour of Busbie in 1593, and who married Marion Conyngham. She and her husband were living in 1625.

3. Lady Agnes, married Thomas Kennedy of Bargany. Their contract of marriage is dated 12th January 1555.[7]

4. Lady Margaret, married Hew Montgomerie of Stane.[8]

5. Lady Jehane married, before 10th April 1562, Mathew, son of James Stewart of Cardonald, as appears from a discharge of that date by Mathew Stewart, spouse to Jehan Montgomery, sister lauful to Hew Earl of Eglinton.[9] Lady Jehan and her husband were both living on 21st June 1569, as appears from a contract of Warrandice given to Hew, third Earl of Eglintoun, of 50 merks out of the lands of Henderston Easter, in the parish of Paisley, in full of tocher paid by the Earl to James with his sister Jehane, on her marriage with Mathew.

Marion Seton, Countess of Eglinton, died before 10th April 1562.

[1] Records of the University of St. Andrews.
[2] Eastwood Writs at Eglinton.
[3] Dreghorn Writs.
[4] At Eglinton.
[5] Vol. ii. p. 200, No. 175.
[6] Irvine Writs at Eglinton.
[7] Vol. ii. p. 153, No. 153.
[8] Paper called Offenses done by Hew Wallace of Carnell to Hew Earl of Eglinton. (Eglinton Charter-chest.)
[9] Eglinton Writs.

XVI. Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun [1546-1585],

Was born about 1531, and succeeded his father, the second Earl, in 1546. Being then under age, Robert Lord Sempill, Richard Maitland of Lethington, and Hew Wallace of Carnell, acted as his curators. He and his brother William were educated at the University of St. Andrews; both having been incorporated students of St. Mary's College in 1552. The Earl is enrolled as—'Nobilis et ingenius adolescens Hugo 'Montgumry Comes de Eglyntone.'[1] The Earl attained his majority about the year 1552, and entered on public life immediately after. On the 19th May 1552, he obtained a charter of the office of Chamberlain, Justiciary and Bailie of all the lands belonging to the monastery of Kilwinning, from Gavin the Commendator.[2] On 20th January 1559, he received a grant of the temporalities of the bishopric of Galloway, from the time of the decease of bishop Andrew till the appointment of his successor. He received a grant of feu-duties of the abbacy of Kilwinning, on the 24th of August 1565. And on the 8th November of the same year, he received a charter to himself and Hugh his heir apparent, and their heirs-male, of all the lands of the lordship and earldom of Eglinton, reserving to Agnes Drummond, the Earl's Countess, her terce.[3]

On the 30th September 1561, the Earl made a revocation of all charters granted, and acts done by him during his minority.[4]

His lordship was a warm and zealous supporter of Queen Mary. He was one of the nobles, who in 1561 passed over to France to conduct Mary thence to Scotland. 'In Maij this zeire' says Sir James Balfour, 'James, prior of St. Andrewes, goes to 'France to pacifie the Queine, wich in some sort he performed; he was attendid 'ther with the Earles of Bothuell and Eglintone, with diuers others of the Scottes 'nobilitie.'[5] Whilst Mary was preparing to return to Scotland, there were mani-

[1] Records of the University of St. Andrews.
[2] Reg. Mag. Sig., Lib. xxxi. No. 77.
[3] Ibid. xxii. No. 405.
[4] Vol. ii. p. 159, No. 158.
[5] I. 325. 'Vpoun the xxix day of Januar, the Erle of 'Eglintoun and the Abbot of Dunferling past to France 'furth of Dunbar.' [Diurnal of Occurrents, p. 64.]

fested the first symptoms of that discord between her and Elizabeth of England, which embittered the life and hastened the tragical death of the unfortunate Scottish Queen. The more immediate occasion and the more apparent cause of the rupture between them, was the ratification of the treaty of Edinburgh. And it need hardly be remarked, that of that treaty, the sixth article alone contained any ground of complaint or dispute. By it, not only was it declared that the crowns of England and Ireland belonged to Elizabeth alone, but it was further provided, that Mary should promise 'that in all time coming she should abstain from using the titles and bear-'ing the arms of these kingdoms.' Now it is clear, that the ratification of a treaty containing such an article as that, must have proved fatal to the prospects of Mary. Her pretensions to the English Crown, to say the least, were anything but ill founded. By many, her title to the throne of England was considered better than even that of Elizabeth. The whole Catholic party in England itself openly maintained that opinion, and even the English Protestants who supported the cause and throne of Elizabeth, did not dispute that Mary was her rightful successor. Mary's claims, indeed, were so clearly established, and so universally recognized, that they added immensely to her dignity and importance in the eyes of all Europe; and had she weakly surrendered them at the bidding of Elizabeth, by ratifying the treaty of Edinburgh, her loss of prestige must have been great. All this Elizabeth saw, and was anxious that Mary should ratify the treaty. All this Mary saw too, and steadily and resolutely refused to comply. This was the more apparent cause of the rupture between the two Queens, the real cause of their enmity was of a deeper nature and more of a personal character. 'Though considerations of interest,' says Robertson, 'first occasioned this rupture between the British Queens, rivalship of another kind 'contributed to widen the breach, and female jealousy increased the violence of their 'political hatred.' 'Though Elizabeth was as much inferior to Mary in beauty and 'gracefulness of person, as she excelled her in political abilities, and in the arts of 'government, she was weak enough to compare herself with the Scottish Queen; and 'as it was impossible she could be altogether ignorant how much Mary gained by the 'comparison, she envied and hated her as a rival by whom she was eclipsed.'

We have alluded thus particularly to the growing animosity between the Scottish and English Queens, because it led to a sort of adventure on the part of the Earl of Eglintoun and some others of Mary's convoy on their voyage to Scotland. Mary sent to Elizabeth to ask a safe conduct, to protect her from the interference of the English fleet, and to enable her, in case of storm or necessity, to take shelter in English harbours. This request was so reasonable, that common courtesy alone should have led

Elizabeth at once to comply with it. She, however, not only positively refused to do so until the treaty of Edinburgh was ratified,[1] but rejected it in such a manner as not only roused in the Scottish Queen feelings of just indignation, but also caused serious alarm for the safety of her passage and her person. Some say, indeed, that Elizabeth granted the safe conduct, whilst she gave secret instructions to her commanders to intercept the Queen of Scots on her voyage. If this was the case, Elizabeth's conduct was made all the worse by her adding deceit to discourtesy and injustice. But be that as it may, she certainly attempted to intercept Mary; but whilst the vessel which bore her escaped the English cruisers during a thick fog, that which carried the Earl of Eglintoun and others of her suite, was captured by the English and carried into port. Mary arrived safely in Leith harbour on the 19th of August 1561. Lord Eglintoun, and the others who were with him, not being detained by the English, immediately put to sea again, and arrived at Leith shortly after their royal mistress.[2] The Earl continued one of Mary's most steadfast adherents during the troublous and eventful period which immediately followed her arrival in Scotland, accession to the throne, and marriage with Darnley. He is supposed to have been present in the Parliament which met at Edinburgh, 12th April 1567, for the trial of the Earl of Bothwell for participation in the murder of Darnley, and which declared him not guilty of the charges brought against him. On the rising of this Parliament, whose decision was a source of great indignation to the public, but every thing that Bothwell could wish, he entertained his friends and supporters at supper in a tavern in Edinburgh. During the entertainment, the house was surrounded by armed men. The Earl of Bothwell rose, and demanded the signatures of his guests to a document empowering him to marry the Scottish Queen, in accordance with her own wishes, as expressed in another document which he produced. His guests were taken by surprise. Confusion and uproar ensued. Taking advantage of this, the Earl of Eglintoun left the house, and thus avoided lending his name and influence to the unprincipled ambition of Bothwell. From the name of the landlord of the tavern, this entertainment has ever since been known as 'Ainslie's Supper.' Lord Eglintoun was one of those nobles who met at Stirling in May following, to adopt measures for securing the young Prince James from the power of Bothwell and Mary. They entered into a solemn bond, according to which they pledged themselves 'to defend each other in all things that should concern 'the glory of God and the commonweal of their country'—an agreement which ultimately led to the banishment of Bothwell and the deposition and imprisonment of

[1] Balfour, i. 326.

[2] Robertson.

Mary. But though the Earl was thus far a party to the dethronement of Mary, he does not seem as yet to have entirely renounced his allegiance to that unfortunate Queen. He appears rather to have thought, that too great severity had been shown towards her. And accordingly, when she made her escape from Lochleven Castle in 1568, his lordship was one of the first of the nobility who joined her standard. He fought under her banner at the battle of Langside, on 13th May 1568, and acted with her party for sometime after that disastrous conflict. The earliest letter of the following collection, is from Sir John Mure of Caldwell, dated 10th May 1569,[1] in which he tells Lord Eglintoun, that all the noblemen had declared in favour of the Regent except him.

Soon afterwards, he appears to have been obliged reluctantly to give in his adhesion to the King's party. He was apprehended by the Regent, and put in ward in Doune Castle, on 26th April 1571; but was liberated before July, as in that month he met the Earl of Mortoun at Stirling. On 12th August same year, an agreement was entered into between Morton as chancellor, and Mar on the one part, and the Earls of Argyle, Cassillis and Eglintoun, and Lord Boyd, on the other part, whereby, on condition of obtaining a remission for past rebellion, the latter consent to serve the King and the Regent.[2] The Earl of Eglintoun attended the Parliament held at Stirling, in August 1571, commonly called 'the Parliament with the hole in it.' The origin and significancy of this designation are thus quaintly related by Sir James Balfour.[3]

'In August this zeire, Mathew Earle of Lennox, the regent, held a parliament at 'Streuelinge, wich is not recordit amongest the printed statutes of this King's raigne, 'quherin (the young King being present) the said Regent made ane speiche to the 'Estaits of the realme ther present, during wich the King looked vpe, and espayed a 'hole in rouffe of the housse, by the laicke of some sklaitts, and after the Regent had 'endit his harrang (he said), 'I think ther is an hole in this parliament.' So that, in 'effecte, ere long his Majesties words wer found trew, for in the same mounthe, about 'the ending of the parliament, ther came to Streueling in the night, ere the nobilitey 'or toune knew, the Earle of Huntley, the Queines Leiuetenant, Claud Hamiltone, withe 'Lairdes of Buccleuche and Pherneyhirste, and ere daybracke had possessed themselves 'of the toune, craying, God and the Queine; so that thesse that were for the King and 'his Regent, for the multitude of enemies, could not come to a head, but quher euer 'they could see aney that belonged to the Regent, him they killed without mercy; the 'Regent being takin prisoner by the Laird of Buccleuche, and horssed behind him, an

[1] Vol. i. No. 15. [2] Vol. ii. p. 207, No. 181. [3] Pp. 350, 351.

'wicked fellow lift wpe his jacke, and shote him troughe the bodey with a pistoll. The 'Earle of Lennox, the Regent thus killed by a packe of wicked traitors, quho depairted 'the toune immediatly; and the Earle of Mar was declared Regent, and concludit 'the parliament. This was the holl wich the young King did see in the parliament, 'altho he meine nothing les.'

The Earl of Eglintoun was amongst the prisoners who fell into the hands of the Queen's party when Stirling was thus taken by surprise. But neither his sufferings nor his services in the cause of James VI. seem to have long preserved for him the favour of that monarch; for we find that in 1581, his lordship was one of those nobles whose services were not to be required in the Parliament held at Edinburgh. His exclusion from this Parliament, was no doubt owing chiefly to his avowed hostility to the royal favourites, the Earl of Lennox and Captain James Stewart. The King had recently created Lennox a duke, and made Stewart Earl of Arran; and as the Parliament was expected, with at least an appearance of unanimity, to confirm these creations, those known to be hostile were excluded. The spirit and power of the disaffected nobles, however, were not to be so easily broken and crushed, either by the coldness and distance of the King, or their exclusion from Parliament. The Earls of Eglintoun, Mar, Glencairn and Gowrie, with many barons and gentlemen of distinction, entered into a combination to rescue the King from the hands of the favourites, even if it should be necessary to do so by force. They soon found an opportunity. In August 1582, James had been enjoying his favourite sport of hunting amongst the wilds of Athole. On returning to Edinburgh, he was invited to Ruthven Castle, which lay on his way to the capital. He became alarmed at the multitude of strangers whom he saw there, and was anxious to make his escape. Before he could do so, however, the discontented nobles entered his chamber in a body, and protested against the illegal and oppressive acts of his two favourites, Lennox and Arran. And the result of this Raid of Ruthven, as it is commonly called, was, that Arran was committed to prison, Lennox expelled from the kingdom, and the King himself kept in the hands of the conspirators.[1] Of the three remaining years of his life little more is recorded of the Earl of Eglintoun. His death occurred on the 3rd June 1585.

The third Earl married, first, Lady Jane Hamilton, youngest daughter of James Earl of Arran, Duke of Chatelherault, according to the contract of 13th February 1554.[2] This marriage, however, was dissolved in 1562, in consequence of the parties standing in the fourth degrees of consanguinity. The process of divorce at the instance

[1] Robertson, 116, 117.

[2] Vol. ii. p. 148, No. 151.

of the Earl will be found among the family papers now printed.[1] In it the consanguinity adverted to is the only reason or ground of divorce alleged or insisted on. But soon after the Earl obtained this divorce, the lady instituted an action of divorce at her own instance against him on other grounds. Before decree could be obtained, the Earl removed from Scotland to France, to avoid the jurisdiction of the church. The cause came ultimately to depend before John Knox and other members of the reformed church in Edinburgh, who finally pronounced a sentence of divorce on 25th June 1562.[2] The marriage having been arranged between the parents of the parties, according to the practice of the period, turned out an unhappy one; yet neither of the parties gave facilities for expediting the divorce. When the Earl instituted his action of divorce, Jane appears to have been living with her father at Hamilton, and endeavoured to avoid the execution of the summons. When the Countess instituted her action, the Earl, to avoid the effect of it, fled to France.

Jane Hamilton survived her divorce for many years, during which there are several notices of her. She appears to have contracted a marriage with David Dundas of Priestisinche, the validity of which seems to have been questioned on the same grounds as her previous marriage.[3] One of her servitours, in 1581, abstracted a portion of her wardrobe, but obtained forgiveness on restoring the stolen 'geir,' and at the same time granting an obligation in these terms —

'Me Jhonne Yallowleis, seruitour to my Ladie Countes of Eglingtoun, grantis me to haif done 'offence bayth to God, hir ladyship, and my awin saull, and that in taking fra hir ladyship 'certane walkit clayth, woll and linnyng claythis furth of her ladyship's wardrope maist thifteouslie, 'wnknowin or giffin to me be hir ladyship, quhairof I first craif Goddis mercy and forgywenes 'and nixt hir ladyship, quha hes ressauit the said geir agane and hes forgeffin me: Thairfoir to 'be bund and obleist . . . that I sall be fra this tyme furth leill and trew to the said 'nobill lady my maistres swa lang as I am in hir ladyship's seruice . . . and gif I do in 'the contrair heirof, ather to the said nobill lady my maistres or yet to any man or womane I 'sall be in cumpany with heirefter, I am content newer to be estimat ane honest man, but to 'be counted, estemit and perseuit as ane theif, vagabunde, and defamit persone.'[4]

[1] Vol. ii. p. 163, No. 160.
[2] Ibid. p. 183, No. 162.
[3] Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, vol. i. p. 100.
[4] Original at Tynninghame.

She died on the 18th of December 1596, having bequeathed by her will 'to the 'hospitall of Edinburgh the Queins colledge for my buriall place one hundred merkis, 'vtherwais not.' Her will is dated at Edinburgh, 9th December 1596. In it David Dundas is appointed one of her executors.[1]

Before her marriage with the Earl of Eglintoun, Lady Jane had been betrothed to Gilbert Master of Cassillis. By a contract which is registered in the Books of Council on 10th January 1546, it is agreed between Gilbert Earl of Cassillis and James Earl of Arran, that the Master of Cassillis and Dame Jane Hamilton should solemnize marriage as soon as they were of lawful age, and that the Regent should give his daughter £2333, 6s. 8d. of tocher.[2]

Soon after the divorce of Lady Jane Hamilton, the Earl of Eglintoun married Agnes, daughter of Sir John Drummond of Innerpeffry,[3] and widow of Sir Hugh Campbell of Loudon. The banns of their marriage were proclaimed on three successive occasions, in the churches of Eaglesham, Innerpeffray and Monzie.[4] These proclamations furnish examples of compliance with that law of the church, which provides that they should be made on successive days, and not all on one day, as is often the case now. On 19th August 1562, a dispensation was granted by the Archbishop of St. Andrews, absolving the Earl and his second Countess from the sentence which they had incurred through their marriage, they being within the prohibited degrees.[5]

By his second wife, who survived him, and married for her third husband Patrick, third Lord Drummond, and died on 21st January 1589, the Earl had two sons and two daughters—

1. Hugh, fourth Earl of Eglintoun.

2. Robert Montgomery of Giffen, who is a party to a contract anent the lands of Galloberries, dated 12th August 1584.[6] On 25th November 1589, Robert Master of Eglintoun, so styled as heir presumptive to his brother the fourth Earl, obtained a licence from King James VI. to remain at home from the Raid of Dumfries, in January following, because of the deadly feud subsisting between him and John

[1] Vol. ii. p. 233, No. 199.
[2] Contemporary Extract in Ailsa Charter-chest.
[3] Vol. ii. p. 185, No. 163.
[4] Vol. ii. pp. 187, 188, Nos. 164, 165.
[5] Vol. ii. p. 189, No. 166.
[6] Galloberries Writs at Eglinton.

Lord Hamilton, warden of the border marches, on account of the slaughter of John Cunynghame of Clonbae, committed by the Master.[1] Robert, and Jean Campbell his wife, had charters of the ecclesiastical lands of Ardrossan and Dreghorn, 14th June 1592; of part of the lands of Eastwood and Langside, 4th October 1594; of Eglisham, on the resignation of James Hamilton of Longherdmanstoun, with consent of Jean Hamiltoun, Countess of Eglintoun, of the same date; and of the lands of Scotstoun, in the county of Renfrew, 9th July 1595. He married, contract dated April 1589, his cousin-german, Jean, eldest daughter of Sir Matthew Campbell of Loudoun, by Isabel, daughter of Sir John Drummond of Innerpeffry; and by her who afterwards became the second wife of Ludovick, second Duke of Lennox, had three daughters, *Margaret*, *Agnes* and *Isabel*, who are all mentioned in the contract of marriage of the eldest in 1604. Agnes, the second daughter, died before 1612, as appears from a disposition, dated 18th April that year, and registered in the Books of Council and Session 5th June 1613, by 'Lady Margaret Montgomerie, 'eldest lauchfull dochter of umquhile Robert Maister of Eglintoune, and Maistres 'Issobel Montgomerie, my sister-germane, alsua lauchfull dochtir to the said 'umquhil Robert, Maister of Eglintoune, oure father, procreat betwix him and 'Dame Jeane Campbell, Duchess of Lennox, his relict spous, to Robert Campbell 'of Possil, of the lands of Crawfurd's Mains, part of the barony of Eastwode and 'others.'[2] The youngest daughter, Isobel, died before 30th July 1613, as in a charter of that date, afterwards referred to, her sister Margaret is called the only daughter of their father.

Margaret, the eldest daughter, was born about the year 1590, as, in the curatorial proceedings at her instance in 1604, she declared that she was fourteen years of age.[3] She was served heir to her father in the lands of Giffen on 16th June 1604. She married, first, her cousin-german, Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglintoun, without issue; secondly, Robert, sixth Lord Boyd, also without issue. In charters to the sixth Earl of Eglintoun, she is designated 'unica filia et heres quondam Roberti Montgomery, magistri 'de Eglintoun,' 30th July 1613, and 'Domina Margareta Montgomery olim Comitissa 'de Eglintoun nunc Domina de Boyd,' 4th March 1615.[4] She died in the end of that year, or in the following year, without issue.

Robert Master of Eglintoun (younger son of the third Earl), died in August 1596.

The two daughters of the third Earl were —

3. Lady Margaret, married Robert, first Earl of Wintoun, Lord Setoun. Their

[1] Vol. ii. p. 229, No. 196. [2] Eglinton Writs. [3] Ibid. [4] Ibid.

contract of marriage is dated 10th April 1582. Lord Eglintoun thereby became bound to pay George Lord Setoun, father of Robert, the sum of twelve thousand merks Scots, in name of tocher, with Margaret. The third son of this marriage, Sir Alexander Setoun, was provided to the earldom of Eglintoun by Hugh, the fifth Earl, by an arrangement between the families, as will be explained in the account of the sixth Earl. The charms of Lady Margaret formed a theme for the muse of her kinsman, Alexander Montgomery, author of 'The Cherrie and the Slae'—

Luifaris leive of to loif so hie
Your ladeis; and thame styel no mair,
But pier, the eirthlie *A per se*,
And flour of feminine most fair;
Sen thair is ane without compair,
Sic tytillis in your sangs deleit,
And prais the pereles preclair,
Montgomrie, maikles Margareit,
Quhose nobill birth, and royal bluid,
Hir better nature dois exceid.
Hir native giftes, and graces gud,
Sua bonteouslie declair indeid,
As waill, and wit of womanheid,
That sa with vertew dois ourfleit.
Happie is he that sall posseid
In marriage this Margareit![1]

. . . .

Margaret, Countess of Wintoun, survived her husband for twenty-one years, and died on the 9th April 1624.[2]

4. Lady Agnes, younger daughter of the third Earl, married Robert Lord Sempill, and had issue. There was a contract of marriage entered into between Hew Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomery, for himself and Dame Annas Montgomery, now Lady Sempill, on the one part, and Robert Lord Sempill, spouse to the said Dame Annas, with consent of his curators, on the other part, dated at Paisley, 11th September 1583. This contract narrates, that as it has pleased the said Lord Sempill to contract matrimony in face of the holy church lawfully, in the fear of God, with the said Dame Annas, now his spouse, by a good space bygone, which is good and laudable as effeirs, he binds himself to infeft Annas in the barony of Glassford. The Earl binds himself to pay six thousand merks Scots of tocher, of which four thousand merks is to be applied in the redemption of the said barony, wherein Barbara Prestoun, mother to the said Lord, and now spouse to Robert Mure of Caldwell, is infeft.[3]

Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, made his testament at Eglintoun in 1563, in which

[1] Song on Lady Margaret Montgomerie: Poems of Alexander Montgomery, by David Irving. Edin. 1821, 8vo. pp. 161-2.

[2] Chronicle of the House of Seytoun. Edin. 1833, 4to. p. 53.

[3] Original Contract at Caldwell. In the old chapel of Castle Semple, there is a stone, on which is cut the arms of Eglinton and Semple: 1st and 4th, a cheveron cheque with three bugle horns for Semple; 2nd and 3rd, three annulets of Eglinton, and the initials R. L. S. [Communicated by C. F. Shand, Esq., Advocate.]

he constituted Agnes Drummond, his countess, his only executrix. The testament contains this clause in reference to his eldest son —

'Item, I leif Hew Montgomery, my sone and aperand air, to the Quenis Majesty, to be vsit and 'gouernit at hir Grace's plesour, and to be ane trew, faythfull subject and obedient seruent to 'hir hienes, and that it will pleis hir Majesty to defend and mantein my said soun and apeirand 'air, and my said spous his moder, in all thair just and lesum caussis, and to lat thame not 'be molestit nor trobillit be ony pertenand me, or ony vthir persoun quhatsumevir.' 'Item, 'I mak and constetuttis the said Dame Agnes, my spous, tutrix testamentar, and be the tennour 'of thir presentis, makis and constitutis the said Dame Agnes to have the governyng and 'handelling of Hew Montgomery, my soun and apeirand air, to haif himself quhill he be of 'perfyt age of discressioun and knawlege, to be governit, lernit, tetchit, and vsit be the said 'Dame Agnes, his moder, and na vtheris, sa lang as sche remanis wedow; and failing of hir 'in ony sort, to George, now Lord Settoun, to be tutour to the said Hew, of quhom failzeing, 'to young Lard of Lothintoun, and falzeing of him, to Mr. James M'Gill, clerk of register.'

The third Earl died on 3rd June 1585,[1] and was succeeded by his elder son —

XVII. Hugh, fourth Earl of Eglintoun [1585–1586],

Who was born in the year 1563,[2] and survived his father only about ten months. On the 18th April 1586, he was cruelly murdered by a party of the Cuninghames, in the manner thus described in 'The Historie of King James the Sext:'[3] 'Cunynghame of 'Robertland tuik the interpryse in hand, whilk he accompleist on this manner. Twa yeir 'before his treasonabill attemptat, he insinuat himself in fameliaritie and all dewtefull 'service to the said yong Erle, whareby he movit him to tak pleasour without any sus-'picioun, till he conqueist sik favor at his hand, that nather the golde, money, horsis,

[1] Account of his 'geir,' &c., at Eglinton. [List of Earls of Scotland, State Paper Office, vol. xli., No. 96.]
[2] He is stated to be twenty-four years of age in 1586.
[3] P. 239.

'armure, clothis, counsall, or vayage was hid from him, that this same Robertland was 'maid sa participant of thayme all evin as thocht thay had been his awin; and besyd all 'this, the confidence and favor that the Erle shew unto him was sa great, that he preferrit 'him to be his awin bedfallow. Heirat Lord Hugo, auld Erle of Eglintoun, tuik great 'suspicioun, and tharefore admoneist his sone in a fatherlie maner to be war of sik 'societie, whilk without all doubt wald turne to his skayth; for he knew weill the 'nature of thais Cunynghames to be subtile and fals, and tharefore willit him to geve 'thayme na traist, but to avoyd thair cumpany altogither, evin as he lovit his awin 'lyff, or wald deserve his fatherlie blessing. To this counsall the sone gae litill regarde, 'bot that was to his paynis; and the domestic enemie was sa craftie indeid, that he 'wald attempt na thing during the lyf of the father, for many respectis. Bot within 'short tyme tharefter as the noble Erle was passing a short way in pastyme, accum-'paneit with a verie few of his houshald servands, and evill horsit himself, Robertland, 'accumpaneit with 60 armit men, came rynning furioslie aganis him upoun horsbak, 'and the Erle, fearing the thing that followit, spurrit his horse to have fled away. 'His servands all fled another way from thair maister, and he was left alone. The 'horsemen ran all on him, and unmearcefullie killit him with shots of gunnis and strokis 'of swords. The complaynt of this odious murther being maid to the King, he cawsit 'the malefactors to be chargeit to a tryall. But they all fled beyond sea. Robertland, 'wha was the first that maid the invasioun, past to Denmarc, whare he remaynit at 'Court till the King came to Queyne Anne. And becaus nayne of the rest could be 'apprehendit, the King ordaynit thair howsis to be randrit to the Erlis brother, to be 'usit at his arbetrement, ather to be demoleist or utherwayis; and he swore the great 'ayth, that he sould never appardone any of thayme that had committit that odious 'murther. Yet, how sone his Majestie was arryvit in Denmarc, his pardon was 'demandit of the Queyne for the first petition, and the same was obtenit, and he was 'ressavit in grace thair in presens of thayme all. Tharefter he came hayme in the 'Queynis cumpany, and remaynis as ane of hir Majestie's maister stablers.'

This murder, another result of that unhappy feud between the Montgomeries and Cuninghames, which had already caused so much bloodshed, not only deprived the family of their chief, but deprived the country of a nobleman of great hope and promise. The murder 'was afterwards honourably avenged' by Robert Master of Eglintoun, brother of the Earl.

As mentioned in the history above quoted, the assassins were declared rebels; but they succeeded in evading the process of law which was directed against them. The Act of Council, which was passed on the 13th August 1586, authorizing

Robert Master of Eglintoun to take possession of the houses of Robertland and of Aiket, was ratified by an Act of Parliament passed on 29th July 1587. Without standing a trial, as ordered by Council and Parliament, David Cuninghame of Robertland obtained from King James, in March 1591–2, a pardon for the murder, and an order for redelivery of his house. Others of the assassins also succeeded in obtaining pardons; and on 5th June 1592, two Acts of Parliament were passed, repealing the previous Acts of Council and Parliament — directing the restoration of the houses of Robertland and Aiket, and ratifying the pardon to Cuninghame of Robertland. The King, at the passing of these Acts, declared in Parliament, that, so far as he remembered, he never granted a pardon to any person concerned in the murder of the Earl of Eglintoun, except Cuninghame of Robertland. Whereupon the Earl of Glencairn, who was himself understood to be the instigator of the murder, protested that the King's declaration should not prejudice any of the Earl's friends, who had already obtained pardons for the murder; but that they should be allowed to plead them when prosecuted for the murder of Eglintoun, notwithstanding the royal declaration.[1]

The fourth Earl is thus celebrated by John Johnston: —

'Illa opifex solers rerum, magni æmula Olympi
Natura, immensis ambitiosa opibus;
Illa sibi de te certans quæ singula, rara,
Vix aliis, dedit hæc cuncta benigna tibi.
Sic artus, sic ora, animos, sic pectora finxit,
Cæteraque humanis anteferenda notis:
Vix aliquem ut credas mortali semine cretum,
Ast quales tulerunt secula prisca Deos.'

The confirmation of the inventar of the fourth Earl is dated at Edinburgh, 20th March 1589. It bears that he was slain and decessit ab intestato on 18th April 1586, and the inventary was given up by Robert Master of Eglintoun, brother-german of the Earl, as tutor of Hew, now Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie, only lawful son of the Earl.[2]

The fourth Earl married, first, Egidia, daughter of Robert fourth Lord Boyd. Their contract of marriage is dated in May 1576,[3] and contains several provisions in reference to the care and management of the young couple, who were 'minors and of 'less age' at the time of their marriage. It appears from the contract that the Earl

[1] Acta Parl. iii. 479, 610-11. Chalmers' Caledonia, vol. iii. p. 470.

[2] Original at Eglinton.

[3] Vol. ii. p. 214, No. 185.

was then only in his fourteenth year; and it is presumed that his Countess was much about the same age. Their parents thought them unfit to keep house together until the Earl should arrive at the age of seventeen, in 1580. Egidia Boyd predeceased her husband, the fourth Earl, who married, secondly, before 14th August 1589, Helen, daughter of Thomas Kennedy of Bargany. She survived her husband, and married, secondly, before 20th September 1591, John Graham of Knockdoylane; and thirdly, before 1613, Alexander Kennedy of Craigneill. By his first wife the fourth Earl had an only son —[1]

XVIII. 1. Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglintoun [1586-1612],

Who was an infant when deprived of his father in the melancholy manner above mentioned, as appears from the List of Nobility prepared in 1592. Robert Master of Eglintoun was his tutor-at-law, but he was educated under the charge of his uncle, Robert Boyd of Badinheath. King James VI. took the young Earl into his favour, and interested himself for the promotion of the marriage of the Earl to a lady of his own kindred. The contract, which was prepared in 1598, for the marriage of the Earl to Gabriela Stewart, sister-german of Ludovick, Duke of Lennox, contains a preamble, in name of the King himself, who is a party to the contract, setting forth the merits of the youthful Earl and his ancestors, 'and the respect which he has to the weal and 'standing of his tender and dearest cousin, Hew Earl of Eglintoun, his hous, posterity 'and friends, by these presents receives him and them in his highnesses most priue and 'sure tuition and protection, against all his and their unfriends and enemies whatso-

[1] In the List of the Noblemen of Scotland, furnished to the ministers of Queen Elizabeth in 1592, it is stated, that Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglintoun, was the son of Helen Kennedy, the second Countess of his father. But this is a mistake, as in the contract, dated in 1598, for the marriage of the fifth Earl, it is stated, that Robert Boyd of Badinheth is his 'special kinsman and uncle.' Vol. ii. p. 237, No. 201. The same Robert Boyd bequeathed by his testament, made at Badinheth on 14th July 1611, 'to Hew Erle of Eglin-'toun, my sister sone, my gould signet innamulit with ane 'quhyt gravin stane theirin." [Glasgow Commissary Records, 4th May 1612.]

'ever, without exception.'[1] The King's gracious intentions were not realized, owing to the Lady Gabriela Stewart having preferred a life of celibacy. She became a nun at Glattony, in Berry in France.[2]

His lordship is mentioned as one of the many nobles and barons, who with their armed retainers repaired to Edinburgh, on the trial of John Campbell of Ardkinglas for the murder of Sir John Campbell, laird of Calder. This trial took place at Edinburgh on 17th, 18th, and 23rd of September 1596; and the Earl of Eglintoun, now about twelve years of age, was probably induced to attend by the common relations of himself and the Campbells of Ardkinglas, Colin Campbell having married Lady Maude, third daughter of the first Earl of Eglintoun. Such, it is said, was the sensation created in Edinburgh by the appearance of the hosts of armed men thus brought together, that the citizens were kept under arms for some time, day and night, and the Lords of Session were protected by a body of 300 chosen men. The trial of Campbell, which created such a sensation, or at least was made the pretext for such a demonstration on the part of the nobles, was in fact a matter with which a great number of them were more or less directly connected. The assassination of Campbell of Calder undoubtedly resulted from the great family feud which at the time subsisted between the powerful houses of Murray and Huntly, and in this feud all the influential nobility were more or less implicated. As a participator in this quarrel, Campbell of Calder formed one of the Huntly party, who in 1581,[3] attacked and burned the house of Dunibrissel, and slew the Earl of Murray. Ardkinglas, as one of Murray's party, to take vengeance for the Earl's death, was said to have hired a person of the name of Mackellar to murder the Laird of Calder.[4] Campbell was acquitted of the charges brought against him, though, no doubt, much of the odium of the infamous deed long clung to him. Calder's murder was perpetrated under circumstances of unusual atrocity, and gave rise to the following beautiful Scottish ballad—

Hie upon Hielands
And low upon Tay,
Bonnie John Campbell
Rade out on a day.
Saddled and bridled,
And gallant rode he;
Hame came his gude horse,
But never cam he!

Out cam his auld mither,
Greeting fu' sair,
And out cam his bonnie bride,
Rivin' her hair.
Saddled and bridled,
And booted rade he;
Toom hame cam the saddle,
But never cam he!

[1] Vol. ii. p. 237, No. 201.
[2] History of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 125.
[3] Criminal Trials, i. 300.
[4] Ibid. 391.

'My meadow lies green,
'And my corn is unshorn,
'My barn is to big,
'And my babe is unborn.'
Saddled and bridled,
And booted rade he;
Toom hame came the saddle,
But never came he!

King James VI. and his Privy Council in Scotland took considerable pains to terminate the old feud between the families of Eglintoun and Glencairn. On 27th August 1606, the Privy Council addressed a long letter to the King on the subject.[1] Chancellor Dunfermline informs the King, on the 7th of January following, that the Council had composed many feuds. They were to begin with the 'auldest fead hes 'bene of thame all betuix the Earles of Eglintoun and Glencairne.'[2] On the 21st of the same month, Lord Balmerino wrote to the King, that a submission had been entered into to arrange the differences between the rival families.[3]

It was this fifth Earl of Eglintoun who first acquired the monastery of Kilwinning.

Mr. William Melville, commendator of Kilwinning and Tungland, obtained, in 1591, from King James VI. a grant of the benefice and abbacy of the monastery of Kilwinning, and jurisdiction of the regality, and the lands, lordships, &c. thereof.[4] In the following year, he made resignation in the hands of the King for a new grant of the monastery and manor place. The resignation narrates—'We, understanding that the monasticall 'superstitioun, for the quhilkis the abbacies within this realme wer of auld erectit and 'foundit, ar now, be the lawis of the same alluterlie abolischeit, sua that na memorie 'thairof sall be heirifter, as also that the haill superioritie and temporalitie of the 'haill kirklandis of this realme ar annexit to youre Maiesteis croun (the monastereis 'and abbay places lyand within the precinctis thairof onelie exceptit), and considering 'that the retentioun of oure monasterie and manor place, lyand within the precinct of 'the samin, will be of litill or na availl, commoditie, or proffit to ws;' the commendator therefore grants procuratory for resigning the same in the hands of the King, for a re-grant to the commendator, his heirs and assignees.

On this resignation a charter passed the Great Seal on 17th May 1592, in favour of William Melville, which narrates his services to his Majesty beyond the kingdom, with various princes and nobles.[5]

[1] Letters and State Papers of the Reign of James VI. Abbotsford Club, Edinburgh, 1838. 4to. p. 85.
[2] Ibid. p. 95.
[3] Ibid. p. 96.
[4] Original at Eglinton.
[5] Ibid.

Ten years later, the Earl of Eglintoun acquired from Melville the barony of Kilwinning, by purchase; and a charter in his favour passed the Great Seal on 5th January 1603.[1]

Immediately after the death of the Earl of Eglintoun in September 1612, advantage appears to have been taken by the King of the omission to have the barony of Kilwinning dissolved from the Crown, before the grants to Melville and the Earl. On 23rd October 1612, an Act of Parliament was passed, whereby the King and three Estates declare, that the temporality, property and superiority, are in the King's hands, by reason of the general annexation of the kirklands of the realm to the Crown. The act creates the lands and others pertaining to the abbacy into a free barony and estate of a lordship of Parliament, and confers the same, with all privileges belonging thereto, with the honour, dignity and estate of a lord of Parliament, with badge and arms, on Michael, Lord Balfour of Burlie. This grant bears to be made in recompense of Burlie's frequent employment in the King's affairs at home, or as ambassador to foreign princes, tending to the King's honour and contentment, and the public weal.[2]

A charter passed the Great Seal on 7th September 1614, in favour of Lord Balfour of Burlie, in terms of the Act of Parliament.[3]

This new grant by the Crown in favour of Lord Burlie was a confiscation of the property of the Earl of Eglintoun, but seems to have been acquiesced in, as, soon after his succession to the earldom, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, entered into a contract with Lord Burlie for the conveyance to him of the barony, for payment of 8000 merks,[4] upon which Lord Burlie resigned the barony, and a new charter was granted to the Earl on 26th April 1615.[5] Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, obtained from King Charles II. a signature, dated 13th October 1664, of the barony of Kilwinning, in which he is designated Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomery and Kilwinning, from which it appears, that the Crown held that the latter title had been transferred to the family by Lord Burlie along with the territorial lordship.

The fifth Earl of Eglintoun married, contract dated 3rd, 5th and 9th May 1604, his cousin-german, Margaret, eldest daughter and heiress of Robert Montgomerie of Giffen, Master of Eglintoun. The narrative of this contract shows how anxious Robert Master of Eglintoun was for the marriage of *any* of his three daughters to his chief. The narrative is in these terms — Forsamekill as the said vmquhill Robert Maister of Eglintoun, for the special favor, love and good will which he had and kythit in his

[1] Original at Eglinton.
[2] Extract Act at Eglinton.
[3] Original Charter at Eglinton.
[4] Ibid.
[5] Original Charter at Eglinton.

awin time to the weill standing and profit of the said hous of Eglintoun and surname of Montgomerie, preservation and keeping of his hail lands, leving and heritage with the surname, and specially with the house itself, not only in his contract of marriage made with the said Dame Jean Campbell, now Duchess of Lennox, specially provided and conditioned, that gif it sall happen the said Maister to depart this mortal life, as he did, without heirs-male of his body, and leaving behind him but heirs-female, in that cace his eldest heir-female mariand ane gentleman of the surname of Montgomerie should heritably possess, bruik and succeed to the said Maister: Likeas also the said Maister, in his latter will and testament, made in August 1596, willit and ordanit Mistres Margaret Montgomerie, his eldest dochtir, should only succeed as heir to him, and bruik and joyes his haill lands and leving, if she were laufully married upon the said Hew Earl of Eglintoun, his brother son, as chief, so that his hail lands might abide and remain with the sirname of Montgomerie; and failzing thereof, be her refusal or decease, he ordained Agnes Montgomerie, his second dochter, to marry the said Earl Hew, and to succeed in place of her eldest sister; and failing Agnes marrying the Earl, then his youngest daughter Isobel was ordained to do so, and to succeed to her father's estates. He appointed the daughter so marrying and succeeding, to pay to each of the other two daughters the sum of 8000 merks: The Earl and Margaret, the eldest daughter, then engage to marry each other.

The youthful Eglintoun was thus coveted twice in marriage; once, as we have seen, by King James, for one of his own Stuart kindred, and again by his uncle, Robert Master of Eglintoun, for his own daughters. This marriage of the cousins, although arranged with the view of increasing the fortunes of the house of Eglintoun, was not successful in that object. There were no children of the marriage, and the Earl and Countess were unsuited for each other — as serious differences arose between them, which ended in a separation. At first, however, the Earl and his Countess appear to have been on very good terms; and he made many large grants of land to her; and even the earldom of Eglinton was made over to the Countess. On 14th October 1606, a charter was granted by Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomery and Kilwinning, whereby, on the narrative that he understood Lady Margaret Montgomerie, his dearest spouse, to be nearest by blood and birth to succeed to him in his heritage, and willing that she should not be hurt or prejudiced in her right to succeed to him in his lands, earldom, lordships and others after specified, but that her right thereto should be made more sure during the said Earl's life, so that if he should happen to die without lawful heirs-male of the marriage, all question, controversy and action should be removed; he dispones in favour of her and her heirs-male the earldom of Eglintoun, the barony

of Kilwinning, the heritable office of Baillie of Kilwinning.[1] This charter was afterwards reduced by the Lords of Session at the instance of the Earl, as being granted *stante matrimonio*, by decree dated 20th July 1611.[2]

Margaret, Countess of Eglintoun, after being provided to the succession to his estates, appears to have forsaken her husband, who instituted judicial proceedings against her contracting debts, &c. These proceedings bear — 'That quhair mariage being solemp-'nizat betuix him and her be the space of yeirs last bypast, or thairby, they 'continewit in mutuall amitie, luif, and friendschip, as mareit folks continewallie thair-'eftir, quhill of lait the said Dame Margaret, neglecting that dewtie presumit be the 'law of God, and establischit be the lawis of this realme, hes nocht onlie withdrawn 'hirself fra his societie and cumpany,' but had also contracted debts and other obligations to the prejudice of the Earl, and would continue to do so unless prevented. This inhibition is dated 1st July 1608.[3] Not content with inhibiting the Countess, the Earl also, on 12th November 1608, executed a revocation of the infeftment given by him to her of his whole lands. This revocation narrates, that by the common law and consuetude laws and practice of Scotland, all alienations, dispositions and gifts given and granted by the husband to the wife, of whatsoever his lands, living, heritage, or possessions, *stante matrimonio*, are revocable, and may be revoked by the husband at any time before his death. The Earl considering, and gravely calling to mind, how that God of his mercie, bringing him to that worldly preferment and dignity, in honouring him to be one of the first of the nobility, yet not respecting his own estate so circumspectly as his rank requirit, was most craftily seducit and indirectly circumvened and induced, after the solemnization of the marriage between him and Dame Margaret Montgomerie, his spouse, upon too great affection and preposterous love on his part, to make and grant to her an heritable right of the lordship of Eglinton. And the Earl, seeing that he was not only dishonestly abused, craftily seduced and circumvened, to make and grant the gifts to the Countess, and that the same are made by him to the evident great hurt and prejudice of him, his heirs-male and successors, who are of the first of the nobility; and that the like disposition has never been made by any man living, of sound judgment, within this kingdom; but also that the Countess, since the making of the gifts in her favour, neglecting the duty and obedience that a wife owes to her husband, has diverted herself from his society and company, thereby manifesting and uttering her disloyal and false heart, to her great dishonour and shame. For these reasons the injured Earl revokes the gifts which he had made in favour of his undutiful

[1] Original Charter at Eglinton. [2] Original Decree at Eglinton. [3] Original at Eglinton.

Countess. It does not appear whether or not this conjugal breach was healed during the four years that the Earl survived this revocation.[1] Margaret, Countess of Eglintoun, survived the Earl without issue, and married, secondly, before 24th March 1615, Robert sixth Lord Boyd: She died without issue in 1615 or 1616. Lady Loudoun, who died in January 1617, bequeathed to her daughters the haill goldsmith work, joells, abulziements and others left and disponit to her by vmquhile Dame Margaret Montgomerie, Lady Boyd, contained in an inventar subscribed by the said vmquhile Dame Margaret, of the date at Sorne, the day of 1615.[2] On 28th December 1636, Robert Seton, eldest son of Robert, first Earl of Winton and Lady Margaret Montgomerie, his countess, was served heir-portioner of line of Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglinton, 'filij avun-'culi.'[3] This proves that Lady Boyd had no issue.

According to an arrangement between the families of Eglinton and Winton, it was agreed that the third son of the Countess of Winton, who was the nearest heir of Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglintoun, should be his successor in the earldom. In pursuance of this arrangement, there was obtained on 28th November 1611, a Crown charter of resignation and novodamus in favour of this Earl, whom failing, to Sir Alexander Seytoun of Foulstruther, Knight, son of Lady Margaret Montgomerie, Countess of Wintoun, and others, and the heirs-male to be born to them respectively, of the lordship and barony of Kilwinning, and lordship and earldom of Eglintoun, which are thereby of new united, erected, created and incorporated into one whole and free earldom, to be called the Earldom of Eglintoun. The sanction of the Crown was thus obtained to the transference of the earldom of Eglintoun to the Seton family on the death of the fifth Earl.

Dying without issue, on 4th September 1612, with this Earl ended the direct male line of the Montgomeries Earls of Eglintoun.

[1] Extract Revocation at Eglinton. [2] Commissary Records of Glasgow. [3] Retours, xv. 101.

THE EARLS OF EGLINTOUN OF THE HOUSE OF SETON.

XVIII. 2. ALEXANDER, SIXTH EARL OF EGLINTOUN [1612-1661],

ENJOYED the titles and estates for nearly half a century. He took an active part in public affairs during the troubled reigns of Charles I. and II., and from the prominent position which he occupies in the history of his country, as well as from the correspondence which has been preserved, the events of his life can be traced more fully than those of any of the previous Earls.

Sir Alexander was the third son of Robert Seton, first Earl of Wintoun, and Lady Margaret Montgomerie, his countess. He was born in 1588, and appears to have been early provided to the lands of Foulstruther, in the parish of Pencaitland, and the lands of St. Germains, in the parish of Tranent. He was probably on his travels when he 'was sent for out of France' by his cousin Hugh, fifth Earl of Eglintoun, in reference to the arrangements which were made for his succeeding to the earldom of Eglintoun.[1]

Soon after the death of the fifth Earl, on 4th September 1612, Sir Alexander Setoun was served heir to him in the earldom of Eglintoun. This service was expede on the 20th of October 1612, before a distinguished inquest, which included the Earls of Angus, Home, Perth and Lothian, the Lords Torphichen, Balfour of Burleigh, Colville of Culross and Cranstoun, and four knights. The retour bears, that Sir Alexander Setoun of Foulstruther, Knight, was then named Alexander Montgomerie, Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie.[2] Six days after the service, a precept was issued from the Chancery of Henry, Prince and Stewart of Scotland, to his bailie of Cuninghame, for infefting Sir Alexander Montgomerie, Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie, etc., formerly named Sir Alexander Setoun of Foulstruther, Knight, as heir foresaid, in the earldom of Eglintoun.[3] On this precept the Earl was infeft on the 30th of October 1612.[4]

Sir Alexander now adopted the style and title of Earl of Eglintoun. His family and

[1] Viscount Kingstoun's continuation of the history of the House of Seytoun, Glasgow, 1839. 4to. p. 69.
[2] Eglinton Writs.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Ibid.

friends acknowledged him as Earl; but King James VI. challenged the transference of the title of honour from the fifth Earl without the royal sanction, and declined to recognize Sir Alexander as Earl of Eglintoun.

A controversy thus arose between the King and the Earl, which lasted upwards of two years; the Earl, on the one hand, continuing to use the style and title of Earl of Eglintoun, and on the other, the King refusing to recognize his right to this style and title. By directions from the King, the Earl was summoned to appear before the Privy Council of Scotland, to be discharged from using the title of Earl, but declined the jurisdiction of the Council, and continued to assert his right to the title.[1]

That the King felt keenly this attempt of Sir Alexander to take up the title of the Earl of Eglintoun, may be seen from the letters printed in this volume;[2] and how anxious Sir Alexander was to have his title recognized by the Crown, may be gathered from the following letter from the Archbishop of Glasgow to John Murray of Lochmaben —

'Sir — I have spoken with the Chancellar, and Sir Alexander Seatoun, his nephew. The 'Chancellar sayis, that in his lyf never anything trublit him more than his Majestie's offense 'at that busines of Eglintoun; and both he and Sir Alexander, with mony wordis and oathis, 'protest, thai ar so far from standing in termis with his Majestie, that, to gif his Hienes con-'tentment, they will not fear to submit thair lyfis, honouris and landis, and al; only Sir 'Alexander, being provydit to the successioun of that living, and cumming in against the lyking 'of many freindis of the house, fearit, as he sayis, to do anything that myght bring in question 'the honour and rank thai had formerly kepte amongest the nobilitie; for if he suld haif takin 'his honour be a new creatioun, the old wold haif ben forgottin, and his enemyis ascryvit this 'to his weaknes; otherwyse, that he can inioy honour or livinge, but as from his Majestie, 'and be his Hienes favour and benefit. As he wer foolische to think it, so dois he tak no 'plesure to inioy any of them without his Maiestie's good plesure; and if he may be so happie 'as to obtein his Hienes favour, it sal be al his study to do in his place the best service that 'possibly he can. Surly as I schew his Maiestie, the younge man is of gud expectatioun, and 'one that I hope sal pruif worthie of his Maiestie's favour; and so it plese his Maiestie to provyd 'that, in honour and place due to that house of Eglintoun, he be not preiudgit, his Hienes may 'command him in qhat sorte he plesis, and prescryve anything, for it wilbe obeyit. Ye wold 'thairfore be plesit to intreat his Maiestie, that in suche maner as his Maiestie sal think con-'venient for his honour, this busines may find a setling, qhiche, I trust in God, his Maiestie 'sal never repent; and if his Hienes may be movit to admit him to presence, and accept him

[1] Vol. i. Nos. 28, 29.

[2] Vol. i. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 32, 33, 252, 253, 260, 261.

'in place, ye may advyse the Chancellar of the maner and tym. Alwyse it salbe fit in the 'ending of the erand to remember the Balzerie of Cunyngham, and to advertise the Chancellar 'thairof qhen ye wryt of the rest, that al may be prepared, and those things may be done 'togither; for I haif musit nothing thairof nor can wel do, in respect, I haif ben thocht by the 'Chancellar and otheris, the only instigator of those materis against the heritable Schireffis; 'and it wilbe metest that ye, be his Maiestie's command, signifie the sam vnto him . . .

'Yours always to command,

'Edinburgh, the ellevint Julj 1614.' 'GLASGOW.'

His title of honour was not the only matter of dispute between the King and the Earl. The Court also interfered with his more substantial rights of property. The recently erected lordship of Kilwinning, which had been conferred on Hugh, the fifth Earl, was granted to Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh, by an Act of Parliament of 23rd October 1612. Alexander was not a man tamely to submit to such manifest injustice, and the mode which he adopted to procure redress was characteristic. He had repeatedly remonstrated, but in vain. Irritated by the delay on the part of the Crown to recognize his right to the earldom, and feeling further aggrieved by the more material interference with his barony of Kilwinning, the grant of which to Sir Michael Balfour was tantamount to confiscation of his property, he waited personally on the Earl of Somerset, the King's chief favourite, with whom he supposed the matter mainly rested. He gave the favourite to understand, that, as a peer of the realm, he was entitled to have his claims heard and justice done him, and that though but little skilled in the subtleties of law and the niceties of court etiquette, he knew the use of his sword. From his conduct in this affair, and his general readiness with his sword, the Earl acquired the soubriquet of 'Greysteel,' by which he is still known in family tradition. Either through the influence of the favourite, thus rudely won, or by other means, the King was at length induced to relent, recognized Sir Alexander as Earl of Eglintoun,[1] and granted a charter of novodamus, which narrates that the late Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie, had resigned the whole earldom in favour of Sir Alexander; that after the decease of Earl Hugh, Sir Alexander took the name of Montgomerie, and was served nearest heir of taillie to the Earl in the earldom, and was infeft therein; that the Lady Margaret Montgomerie, formerly Countess of Eglintoun, then Lady Boyd, nearest heir of line of Earl Hugh, had disponed her right to the earldom in favour of Sir Alexander, and had resigned the same in his favour; and likewise, that Sir Alexander had resigned the earldom, with

[1] Vol. i. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 42, 43.

all lands, lordships, &c. belonging thereto, in the hands of the Privy Council as in the hands of the King: Therefore the King confirmed the previous charter of resignation of the earldom, dated 28th November 1611, and of new united, annexed, erected, created and incorporated the earldom, with all lands, lordships, baronies, &c., in one whole and free earldom, to be called in all future times the Earldom of Eglintoun. This charter is dated 24th March 1615. On a precept from Chancery, the Earl was infeft in the earldom on 13th April following, under the designation of Alexander Montgomerie, Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie and Kilwinning.

The difficulty about his title having been thus arranged, the Earl of Eglintoun was received into favour by the King; for in the following year, James addressed a 'maist gracious and princelie letter' to the Earl, who, in July or August 1615, acknowledges it in these terms—

'Maist Sacred Soueraine — Your maist gracious and princelie letter of the tent Junij, concerning the Laird Aikett his satisfactioun, for anye entres he had in anye teyndis of the kirk of Dunloppe, came laitlie to me, at the Earl of Glencairne his hayme cumming, and this is the first occasioun I haue had to mak ansuere thairtoe. As your Highnes Royall wisdome and admirablie dexteritie in taking away all diuisiouns, and reconceilling all deidlie feidds, betuix your subiects in this kingdome; and great prouidence to manteyne all peace, amitie, and concord in this estaitt, is commenditt be the haill warld, amongs your Maiesties innumerabill other werteuis, and will be praysed be all aidges to coume, and all posteritie; sua, for my auin pairt, shall I euer studie, endeuore my selfe to manteyne, aduance, and nurische that your Highnes sua woorthie and godlie desseynge, and shall applie to the same to my uttermaist powar, as is my bund dewtie to doe, in all I may onderstand to be your princelie will and pleasour, off whais onlie bountifulnes, and liberall dispositioun, I acknoulege to haue my haill estait, being, honours, and digniteis.

'In the particular of the Kirke of Dunloppe or Aikkett, his entres thairin, I man mak your Maiestie foirseene, my entres or pouar is nayne att all; for as the Laird Dunloppe hes bein kyndlie possessour of that kirk, and had right thairtoe thir many yeares, be my predecessours, and be the kirk, I had lang befoir for any entres I could haue thairin, ratifeid and approwin his rightis, as my Lord Archiebischope of St. Androis (was then of Glasgow) could weill haue informed your Maiestie off; be whais sicht and adwyse I did all I did in that mater; sua that gif any questioun be thairin, ather in richt or kyndnes, it will be betuix Dunloppe and Aikett: I can be pairtie to nayne of thame. I shall be alwayes maist willing, for your sacred Maiesties satisfactioun, to concurre withe anye in all good offices, to haue anye of thame to doe all measore and reasoun to other in all right and kyndnes, hoiping this sall satisfie your Maiesties heiche wisdome, for my pairt in that mater. Nocht willing to impesche your sacred Maiestie,

'at the present, with farder, bot to praye, in all humilitie and affectioun of hairt, the Eternal 'lang to preserue your Highness in all prosperitie, honour, and contentment, with the humbill 'kise of your royall hand, taiking my leiue, rests,

'Your maist sacred Maiesties maist humbill and affectionatt subject and servitour,

'EGLINTOUN.'[1]

Later in the same year, the King addressed another letter to the Earl, granting him permission, with long-winged hawks, to hauke and kill all sortes of foules, abstaining only from partridges and moor fowles, and hunt hares with raches, giving them fair play, not hunting them with greyhounds.[2]

The Earl continued in favour with James VI. during the remainder of his reign, and seems on all occasions to have taken a warm interest in the welfare of his Sovereign. When King James was in Scotland in the year 1617, he visited Lord Eglintoun at Glasgow, as appears from the Chamberlain's account for that year, which contains payment for provisions to my Lord's house, when the King's Majesty was there.[3] Two years later, in 1619, the Earl writes to his Countess, that 'the Kingis Maiestie has 'been wery seik, and in grit danger of ane grit sualling in his laig, and he himself 'aprehendit daithe. Bot prasit be God, he is conualesit and weill agen.'[4] His lordship was one of the noblemen who attended the funeral of James VI. on the 7th of May 1625. On the succession of Charles I. to the throne, Lord Eglintoun was chosen one of his Privy Councillors. He carried the spurs at the coronation of Charles I. at Edinburgh, on 18th June 1633; and on the 28th of that month, at the riding of the Parliament, the sword of state was intrusted to him.[5] Charles had all the exaggerated ideas of the supremacy of kingly authority, and the absolute nature of kingly power, which had been entertained by his father, and unfortunately for himself and his people, attempted to carry them out to an extent which his father had never contemplated. .This led to a rupture between the Sovereign and his subjects in Scotland. The principles and opinions of the Earl of Eglintoun led him to take the part of the latter. As a measure of safety, they resolved on renewing the Covenant,

[1] Ecclesiastical Letters, ii. 444.

[2] Vol. i. No. 7.

[3] Vol. ii. No. 210, p. 260. The motives of James in making this journey to Scotland had been misrepresented. He wrote to the Privy Council in June 1617, explaining his reasons: 'First,' says he, 'wee are not ashamed to confesse 'that wee haue had these manie yeares a greate and natu- 'rall longing to see our natiue soyle and place of our 'birthe and breeding, and this salmond-like instincte of 'ouris hath restleslie, both when wee were awake, and 'manie times in our sleepe, so stirred vp our thoughtes 'and bended our desires to make a jorney thether, that 'wee can neuer rest satisfied till it shall please God that 'wee may accomplish it.' [Letters and State Papers of the Reign of James VI. Edinburgh, 1838, 4to., p. 302.]

[4] Vol. i. No. 66.

[5] Balfour's Annals, ii. 201; iv. 387. An account of a meeting between Charles and his Parliament, soon after his succession, is given in a letter from Sir William Seton, vol. i. No. 82.

which was sworn to and subscribed in Greyfriars' Church at Edinburgh, on the 1st of March 1638. After this the Earl of Eglintoun became a staunch Covenanter.[1]

The following papers, regarding the election by the Presbytery of Glasgow of Commissioners to the General Assembly of 1638, throw some light on the proceedings on that occasion —

Richt nobill our verie honorable good Lord — Since it hes pleasit our dread Soverane greciously to grant us a frie generall assemblie, quhilk we hope or now is proclaimit in Edinburgh, and this Presbyterie of Glasgow is to choose, God willing, commissioneris on Twesday nixt heir at ten houris; and your lordship hes residence frequentlie in Eglischem, your lordship's parioche in our bounds, sitting in that sessioun with the pastour and elderis for advancement of discipline; we have taken boldnes, most humelie to intreate and invite your lordship to keip our meeting heir on Twesday nixt: We ar seiking the advancement of God his glorie, our king his honour, mantenance of God his trew worship, of lawis and liberties of this kirk and kingdome, since the reformation of this kirk and kingdome their wes never moir neid of God his mercie and concurrence of nobles and ale estates for these forsaid ends. If God please to give his blessing and a happy conclusioun to the assemblie grantit, it sale be the most wonderfull work of mercie that ever God wrocht for this land. We know be happie experience no nobleman hes given fairer proofe of courage and zeale in this grit cause nor your lordship hes given. Heirfor humelie agaene we intreate your lordship to honour that our meeting with your lordship's countenance,

[1] There is at Eglinton a copy of the National Covenant, which is headed, 'The Confessioune of Faith subscryveit at first by the Kinges Majestie and his housheld, in the yeir of God 1580. Thaireftir by persones of all rankis, in the yeir of God 1581, by ordinance of the Lordis of the Secret Counsell, and actis of the Generall Assemblie. Subscryveit againe by all soirtes of persones in the yeir 1590, by a new ordinance of Counsell, at the desyir of the Generall Assemblie, with a generall band for manteinance of the trew religione and the Kinges persone; and now subscryveit in the yeir 1638, by ws Noblemen, Barrounes, Gentlemen, Burgesses, Ministeris, and Comones, wndir subscryveing, Togidder with our resolutioune and promisses for the causses eftirspecefeit, to mantaine the said trew religioune and the Kingis Majestie, according to the confessioune foirsaid and Actis of Parliament. The tennour wherof heir followeth'—[After the Confession, which is in similar terms to other copies of the same document, and before the subscriptions, there is added the following declaration, explanatory of certain points which had been in controversy]. 'The article of this Covenant, which wes at the first subscriptioune referred to the determinatioune of the Generall Assemblie, being now determined at Glasgow in December 1638, and thairby the Fyve Artickles of Perth, and the governament of the kirk by bishopes being declared to be abjured and removed, the civill places and powar of kirkmen declared to be wnlawfull, we subscryve according to the determinatione of the said frie and lawfull Generall Assemblie holdine at Glasgow. Argyll. Sr. Robert Montgomerie. Marie Campbel. Mr. Ferquhar Fraser, Minister within Tyrie and Coll. Mr. Duncan Campbell, minister of Knapdail. Sr. R. Montgomrie. Williame Montgomrie. Hew Montgomeri. Sr. L. M'Laine of Dowart. Colin Campbell of Straquhur. D. Campbell of Duntroun. Archibald Montgomerie. Sr. D. Campbell. L. M'Lauchlans of that Ilk. J. Campbell of Glenfalloch. Murdoch M'Leane of Lochbowye. J. Campbell, of Ardchattan. Archibald Campbell of Ennellane,' and others. It was not usual for ladies to subscribe the Covenant; but in this case Marie Campbell, as a true daughter of Argyll, subscribes along with her father and her husband. The Earl of Eglintoun and his son Sir Henry subscribed another copy of the Confession of Faith which is at Salton.

as we with our hairtis sale still pour furth our prayers to God for health and happines to your lordship and sall remaine,

Your lordship's most humble servandis,

Mr. Ja. Sharpe.	Mr. Jhon Bell, elder.
James Stewart.	Mr. Ro. Wilkie.
Mr. J. Bell, younger.	M. Zacharie Boyd.
R. Tran.	

To the richt noble our verie honorable goode lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. These.

The Earl complied with this request; but it appears from the following protest that the Presbytery of Glasgow declined to receive his vote for Commissioners to the Glasgow Assembly —

At the kirk of Glasgow, the tuentie fyft day of September the zeir of God I^M VI^c threttie aucht zeiris: The quhilk day, in presence of me noter publict and witnesses underwrittin, comperit personallie ane noble and potent erle, Alexander Erle of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie, etc., Sir Bryce Blair, younger of that Ilk, Mungo Sterling of Glorat, James Stewart, present proveist of Glasgow, and Mr. Johnne Dunlop of Garvenekirk for themselfis, and in name and behalf of the haill remanent rewling elders electit and chosin furthe of ilk severall parochin within the presbiterie of Glasgow, being all present at the presbiterie tabill quhair were convenit the moderator and maist pairt of the remanent brethrene of the said presbiterie for the tyme: And quhilk nobill Erle being desyrit be an particular letter subscriuit be Mr. Johnne Bell, moderator, Mr. Robert Wilkie, Mr. Zacharias Boyde, Mr. James Sharp, Mr. Johnne Bell, younger, Mr. Robert Tranne, and James Stewart, present proveist of Glasgow, to be present the said day for electioune of commissioners for the Generall Assemblie for himself, and in name and behalf of the haill remanent elders chosin for that end, offerit thame selffis readie and willing to give their voyces and vottis for chuising commissioneris, as being the day apoyntit be the presbiterie thameselffis and the saidis rewling elderis chosin in everie particular parochin to that effect; quhilk the moderator and brethrene there present refuisit: Quhairvpoun the said nobill Erle, the said Sir Bryce Blair, Mungo Sterling of Glorat, the said James Stewart, proveist, and the said Mr. Johnne Dunlop of Garvinkirk, askit instruments in the hands of me noter following, and protestit that no commissioneris war chosin till they wer laufully requirit to give their voittis theirto: This was done at the presbiterie tabill the said day about one efternoone, or thairby, befoir thir witnesses, Mr. Hendrie Gibsoun, fear of Haghill, Mr. Thomas Thomesoun, student in Glasgow, Johnne Cummyng, merchand there, and Mr. Hendrie Sterling, laufull brother to the said Mungo Sterling of Gloratt.

Ita est Joannes Flemeing notarius ac testis in omnibus et singulis premissis suprascriptis rogatus et requisitus testante manu propria signauit.

The following appointment of Commissioners to the Glasgow Assembly was made by the Presbytery of Irvine—

At Irvin, the 25 of September 1638.

(In Presbyterio.)

The quhilk day, after incalling of the name of God, we, the members of the Presbyterie of Irvin, having diligently considerit the manifold corruptiouns, innovations, and disorders disturbing our peace, and tending to the overthrow of religioun and liberties of our reformed kirk within this realme, quhich hath come to passe, especially thrugh the wante of a necessar remedie of a generall assemblie, alsuell ordinar as pro re nata, enjoyed by ws many yeris, and ratified by Act of Parliament, and now expecting shortly, by the mercye of God, the benefite of a generall assemblie, which is now indyted by his Majesty to be held at Glasgow, the 21 of November nixto come, do by thir presents nominate and appoint Mr. David Dicksoun, minister at Irvin, Mr. Robert Baillie, minister at Kilwynning, Mr. William Russell, minister at Kilbirnie, as also Johnne Lord of Loudoun, ruling elder of the parochone of Newmylis, in name of the barons, conjunctly and severally, our lawfull commissioners; giving and granting to them our full power, commissioun, and expresse charge, to repair to the said assembly, indyted by the King's Majesty to be holden at Glasgow, the 20 of November nixto come, at the day and place quhen and quhair it shall happne to sitt, in any saiff and commodious parte within this kingdome, and their, with the rest quho shall be authorized with lawfull commissioun in our name, to propone, treate, reasoun, vote, and conclude, according to the Word of God, and Confessioun of Fayth approven by sondrie generall assemblies, and received throughout the quholle kingdome in all ecclesiasticall maters competent to a free generall assemblie, and tending to the advancement of the kingdome of Christ and good of religioun, as they will aunswer to God and his church therevpon; and to report to ws their diligence therein. In testification of this our commissioun and charge, we have given command to Mr. James Fullartoun, minister at Beith, our clerke of Presbyterie, to subscrybe thir presents in our name, day and place foresaid.

Mr. Ja. Fullartoun,
Clerke to the Presbytery of Irvin.

Robert Baillie notices the proposal to elect Lord Eglintoun ruling elder for Glasgow, and says he was entreated to be present at the election with many kind, courteous and pressing words. 'Upon this he goes very evil in health, for they did all press him.[1]'

It would be out of place here to enter upon the inquiry as to whether it was the party of the King or the Covenanters that actually commenced the disastrous civil wars, which devastated the empire during the time of Charles I. and his son. It

[1] Baillie's Letters, i. 104.

is certain, however, that the King was so indignant at the conduct of the Assembly of Glasgow in 1638, in continuing its sittings in spite of the threats of his commissioner, the Marquis of Hamilton, to dissolve it, that he determined on severe measures. He accordingly raised an army, placed himself at the head of it, and marched to the Borders; at the same time dispatching the Marquis of Hamilton by sea, to land another army in the north, and with his fleet to blockade the Firth of Forth. As the English Parliament, with which the King had already quarrelled, refused the supplies necessary for carrying out this enterprise, the expenses were defrayed by the contributions of the bishops and principal English clergy; and hence the war was designated the 'Bishops' War,' and Charles himself facetiously dubbed 'Canterbury's Knight.' Nor were the Covenanters by any means idle during these preparations of Charles. By order of the Scottish Parliament, a large army was speedily raised, and put under the command of the veteran Alexander Leslie, who had been trained under the celebrated Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden in the thirty years' war. In this army of the Covenant, the Earl of Eglintoun, accompanied by his eldest son, led a large body of men. Baillie says, that 'Lord Eglinton came away with the whole country at his back.'[1] This army was sustained by the noblemen at their own charge. Baillie says, 'Well I know that 'Eglintoun, our crouner, entertained all the gentlemen of note that were with him, at 'his own table, all the time of our abode; and his son, Montgomerie, keepit with him 'verie oft the chief officers of his regiments.'[2] The hostile armies first met near Kelso in the summer of 1639. Though much superior in point of numbers, the English Royalists fled at the first onset, with the loss of about three hundred men. This encounter, which, from the behaviour of the Royalist forces, scarcely deserves the name of a battle, has been graphically described by De Foe.[3] 'It is evident,' says he, speaking of the Covenanters, 'that this vigilance was, under God, the means of their 'preservation; for that, when the King advanced forwards to York, and from thence 'to the border, they were ready in the field before him, and that with such a resolute 'countenance, as that the English army cared not to attack them; and when the 'Earl of Holland, general of the horse to the King, advanced in a bravado with a 'strong brigade of horse, and a detachment of foot, he was driven back faster than 'he came, by half the number of the Scots cavalry, with musketeers in their intervals, 'a manner of fighting which the English had not seen, and which some Scots officers 'had learned under the great Gustavus Adolphus. It would make too much sport 'with the English courage and bravery, which is so well confirmed in the world,

[1] Memoirs of Robert Baillie, p. xxxviij. [2] Letters, i. 214. [3] Memoirs of Church of Scotland, p. 49.

'to give an account how, like scoundrels, this army behaved. An English historian 'of note says, in a manuscript which I have seen, they were raised by the clergy, and 'imitated their masters; for as the clergy, who prompted this war, accompanied the 'King to York, but left him when he came into the field, so the raw and undisciplined 'army accompanied him to the field, but left him when they should have engaged; 'in a word, none of the troops, after the first skirmish, cared to engage or to look 'the Scots in the face; who, on the other hand, though they would not attack the 'King, yet stood ready and showed all the forwardness in the world to give battle.' After this encounter the Scottish army retired to Dunse Law a hill not far off, and there encamped to await the approach of King Charles himself. The remarkable appearance of the Covenanting army on this occasion is described by Robert Baillie, who, though acting as chaplain to the army, carried a sword and a couple of Dutch pistols at his saddle.[1] On the arrival of the King at Dunse Law, the formidable appearance and determined attitude of the army of the Covenanters were such as at once to bring conviction to his mind that he had underrated the strength of his opponents, and that he could not entertain any reasonable expectation of being able to engage them in battle with a chance of success. Seeing that any attempt to gain his ends by force must prove destruction, the King had recourse to negotiation, and a treaty was accordingly concluded, by which it was agreed that the Covenanters should 'enjoy their religion and liberties according to the ecclesiastical and civil 'laws of the kingdom.' This ambiguous treaty Charles broke almost as soon as he got clear of the Scottish army. He was no sooner out of sight of Dunse Law than he commenced preparations for a second invasion of Scotland. This time the army of the Covenant was not only prepared for him, but rather anticipated his movements. They speedily reassembled, marched into England, encountered the army of Charles at Newburn, and obtained a complete victory on the 28th of August 1640, which led to another treaty of peace, concluded at London in the same year.

Soon after the return of the Scottish army from the expedition to England, so successfully terminated by the victory of Newburn, the military services of the Earl of Eglintoun were brought into requisition in a different part of the empire. In 1641, there broke out the terrible Irish rebellion, which, with its unheard of horrors and atrocities, absorbed for a season the attention both of Scotland and England. The English planters were at once, without distinction of rank, age, or sex, tortured, butchered and almost extirpated. The Scottish settlers were, in the meantime, spared, and the troops sent under command of the Earl of Eglintoun, for their protection and for the sup-

[1] Baillie's Letters, i. 211, Bannatyne Club Edition.

pression of the rebellion, were in time to save their lives, though not their property.[1] Whilst the Earl was in Ireland, great changes had taken place in Scotland. The English Parliament and the King were avowedly at war; and Charles had come to Scotland to conciliate the Scottish Covenanters, and to seek their aid in crushing the English Parliament. He was ready to make great concessions to them, but it was now too late. The Covenanters were already in terms with the Parliament, and preparing to introduce the Covenant into England. And when the civil war in England, properly so called, commenced in 1642, the armies of the Covenant and Parliament united against that of the King. True to his principles as a Presbyterian and Covenanter, the Earl of Eglintoun, on his return from Ireland, fought under the banners of the united armies. He was present with them at the siege of York, and in the battle which ensued on Prince Rupert endeavouring to raise the siege. The armies drew up in order of battle on Long Marston Moor, to the number of about 50,000 men. The battle was long and bloody, and for a time the victory seemed doubtful. Rupert, who commanded in person the right wing of the Royalists, was opposed to Cromwell, who commanded in person the left of the united armies, and both fought with a desperate determination. At last Cromwell prevailed. Rupert gave way, and was driven from the field, and the cause of the unfortunate Charles received a blow from which it never recovered. For his courage and valour in the cause of the Covenant, Lord Eglintoun received many commendations from his countrymen. On the 30th April 1644, Robert Baillie addressed to his lordship the following letter —

'My verie good lord — I am much refreshed to hear of your lordship's good health in so hard 'and laborious services. I do oft joy to hear of your lordship's personal valour and success. 'I pray God preserve your lordship from all hurt. All our worldlie hopes depends on the 'happiness of that your armie: you are every day near the heart of all the godly here; nixt 'to the salvation of our souls, we wish that armie's prosperitie. We esteem our lives and 'estates, and, which is much more deare unto us, our religion and liberties, both ours and the 'posterity's, in all the three kingdoms, to be at this time in your hands. We trust in the good-'ness of our God, that he will furnish you with so much grace, wisdom, and courage, that 'yow shall make to us and after ages, a very good accompt of these greatest and most precious 'jewells which yow now carrie on the points of your swords. We are very hopefull here, that 'when God gives you a prosperous day against Yorke, it shall be a reall defeating of all the

[1] Among the letters in this volume, will be found several from the Viscount Montgomerie, and other Irish cousins of the Earl of Eglintoun, giving an account of the proceedings of the Irish rebels, who it is said 'burne and kill 'within a mile and a half to this place,' (Mount-Alexander) 'insoemuch as from Newry to this, ther is not a 'Scotts or Ingliche dweller, this being thirty-four myles;' and also 'that they robbe, burne, and kill near to Dubline.' [Vol. i. No. 117.]

'enemies both before and behind you. For occurents here, I know your lordship, in that 'committee, receaves them from much better and more legible hands than mine; onlie, I doe 'here present your lordship with a copy of my poor sermon, and with my very heartie service; 'for well it becomes me all the day's of my life to remaine, your lordship's very affectionate 'servant.'[1]

The same writer applauds the courage of Lord Eglintoun at Marston Moor, in a letter dated 12th July 1644; he says —

'The disadvantage of the ground, and violence of the flower of Prince Rupert's horse, carried 'all our right wing doune; only Eglintoune keeped ground there to his great loss. His Lieu- 'tenant Crouner, a most brave man, I feare shall die, and his son Robert be mutilate of 'ane arme.'[2]

He also addressed the following letter to Lord Eglintoun on his success at Marston Moor —

'My verie good lord—After the first reports of your great battell, hearing, for all our victorie, 'that the whole right wing, wherein your lordship was, to be routed, I was for some days in 'perplexitie and fear, doubting much what was your lordships condition; but after Captain 'Stuart came up, and also your lordships large letter to Sir John Seaton, I was much com- 'forted, and blessed God, who had saved your life, and of your brave sone Robert's, from the 'greatest and most apparent danger that ever you had seen. Blessed be God againe and againe, 'who did protect yow, and brought yow out of the jaws of death, and that with so great honour, 'when so many with cowardice fell in disgrace worse than death. This day we have been giving 'to God public praise for that day's unspeakable mercy. If God had not been with you at that 'hour, if yow there had been broken, we all conceive our welfare in this world had been over- 'thrown with you; our religion, our liberties, our children, our persons, our estates, our posteritie, 'had all been putt in the cruell mercy of that wicked faction. Great is your honour and hap- 'piness, whom God made the instruments to conserve to all this Isle all that is dear to them. 'We are hearing also that the town is rendered to you without blood, ane other very great favour. 'O! if we were thankful to God for all these great mercies. I long to hear of the cure of 'Robert's wounds; also of Lieutenant Montgomerie, that brave and gallant gentleman. I have 'sent herewith to your lordship three weeks of the gazetts of Paris; for many I have oft 'received from your lordship. I wish in any thing of the world I were able to do your lord- 'ship, or any of yours, any pleasure; by God's grace, while I live, I shall be very willing, as I 'am straitlie obliged, to serve your lordship and all yours. Praying God to be present with 'your lordship in all your noble interprises, I rest your lordships ever to be com- 'manded, R. Baylie.'[3]

[1] Baillie's Letters, ii. p. 174. [2] Letters, ii. p. 204. [3] Letters, ii. pp. 209, 210.

The Earl of Eglintoun was one of the Committee of Estates of the Parliament of Scotland. With many of the other Covenanters, he opposed the 'Engagement,' which was projected by the Duke of Hamilton in 1648, to march into England and rescue Charles from Cromwell's army; and he aided the Marquis of Argyll, and other noblemen, in expelling the Convention from Edinburgh.

It should be remembered, however, that it was from no feeling of disloyalty that the Earl and his brethren of the Covenant took such a course in these unfortunate civil wars. It was simply because they saw all their sacred rights and religious privileges interfered with by the King at the instigation of the English churchmen, that they felt constrained to appear in arms against their Sovereign. Amid the general grief which was occasioned throughout Scotland by the cruel execution of King Charles, no one was more distressed by the tidings of that event than the Earl of Eglintoun. So far were he and many others of the covenanting noblemen from being opponents of monarchical government, that it was chiefly by their exertions that Charles II. was brought back to Scotland, and finally placed on the throne of his ancestors. On the King's arrival in 1650, the Earl of Eglintoun was one of the first of the nobility who met and welcomed him, and he soon after obtained the honourable appointment of captain of the King's Horse Guards. The reception, indeed, which Charles II. met with from the nobles, the army and the populace, was most enthusiastic. The auspicious event was celebrated 'by setting furth of bail-fyres, ringing of 'bells, sounding of trumpets, and dancing through the streets all night. The pure 'kale-wyffes at the Trone sacrificed their creills, and the very stools they sat upon, 'to the fire.' Had this unanimity and enthusiasm continued, much precious blood would have been saved, the days of the Commonwealth shortened, and Charles sooner restored to his throne. Unfortunately, religious dissensions broke out amongst the Covenanters themselves, and in a great measure paralyzed their military exertions. In the present instance, the dissension arose from the operation of the Act of Classes. By this act all the malignants, as they were called, were classified according to the degrees of their dissatisfaction with the Covenant; and the dominant church party compelled Charles, in accordance with the provisions of this act, to discharge from his army all suspected of malignancy.[1] This 'purgation' led to the dismissal of

[1] Bishop Burnet in the 'History of his own Time,' gives a graphic account of the strictness of the clergy and people of Scotland in 1662. For certain moral delinquencies, he mentions the usual reproving before the Kirk Session, and the 'high place in the church, called the stool or pillar of 'repentance, where they sat at the times of worship for 'three Lord's days, receiving admonitions, and making 'profession of repentance on all those days; which some 'did with many tears, and serious exhortations to all the 'rest, to take warning by their fall.' On this passage, the Earl of Dartmouth has made the following note: 'This 'puts me in mind of a ridiculous story Duke Hamilton 'told me of the old Earl of Eglinton, who had done pen-'ance for fornication, and the fourth Lord's day came, and 'set there again, which the minister perceiving, called to 'him to come down, for his penance was over. 'It may

the Earl of Eglintoun and many of the flower of the Scottish army, and, as might have been expected, proved extremely disastrous to the cause of Charles. It took place just before the battle of Dunbar, on 3rd September 1650, almost in sight of Cromwell and his troops, and to it in a great measure may be attributed that disastrous defeat. The Act of Classes being rescinded, in the same year the Earl was again employed in resisting the arms of Cromwell. In the following year, while raising troops in Dunbartonshire, he was surprised by a party of Cromwell's horse, carried prisoner, first to Hull, and afterwards to Berwick, where he remained in confinement till the restoration of Charles II.[1] In the same year his youngest son, Robert, a celebrated soldier, was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester, where he was General Major of the horse under Charles II. General Montgomerie, after a resolute defence of Powick Bridge, where he was severely wounded, was taken, and sent a prisoner to Edinburgh Castle. The following letters appear to have been written by his father in 1655, with the view of procuring some mitigation of the rigour exercised in the confinement of himself and his son —

'My right honorable lord — I have writtin tuo lettrs to your lordship befor, and I know not 'gif they be come to your hands. I cannot longer be silent, bot is desires to hear of your lord-'ship's good hailth, for truely I sie many streiving to take there advantage of my conditioune in 'wronging me of sindrie particulars that concerns me. I pray God to help it, and to move my 'Lord Protector not to give eare to sutch senistrouos and wronge information against me, for I 'had his promes att my first taking, that he wald vse me with all kindnes and respect, and I 'will not expect other att his hands till I sie the contraire. I have bein a longe suffrer. I pray 'God to comfort me, and bringe me throu all my sufferings, to his glorie and to our comfort. I 'wald intreat your lordship to be mindeful of your cusing my sone Robert, for I think gif there 'be not course taken for him, I think he shall not have longe life in this world, and I doubt not 'bot your lordship will have minde of your vncle, to deall for farder libertie for us who is ould 'men, that we may die in peace and quyitnes, for it is time to us to think on ane other life, he 'being 60 and I being 67. Wishing your lordship all hailth and happines, I rest.'[2]

'My noble lord — I have writtin tuise or thrise to your lordship, bot hes hard no word from 'your lordship, quhilk maks me thake this occasioune to be so trublsome as to desire to know 'what I may expect anent my sequestratioune, ffor I cannot think that (that genores gallant man)

'be so,' said the Earl, 'but I shall always set here for the 'future, because it is the best seat in the kirk, and I do not 'see a better man to take it from me.'' [Burnet's History, Oxford University Press, 1833, vol. i. p. 281.]

[1] 'The taking of Eglintone confirms us of the great 'treacherie of these about the King.' 'My Lord Eglintone's 'lamentable surprise confirms us all in our long suspi-'tions, that the King, Armie, and State, if not Church, is 'in greater hazard to be quickly destroyed by villanous 'traitours among you beyond Forth, than either by the 'English or Scots besouth Forth.' [Baillie's Letters, iii. 145, 147.]

[2] Old copy at Eglinton.

'my Lord Protector will give order to vse me so as to give order to take my sequestratioun, for 'I think when all is truely countet and reckonit and allouet, that it will be with the haveing, and 'my Lord Protector (att my taking) promised to vse me with all kindnes and courtesie, quhilk 'maks me plead for that favoure out of the confidence and assurance I putt in his promise. 'Treuly he may have wronge and senistroues informatioun of me, bot I will desire your lordship 'to show him, that I shall be ready to honnor him and serve him. Expecting his kindnes and 'favoure, which shall obleidg me to remaine his humbl servant. Expecting to hear from your 'lordship, for we ar still closs prisoners, intreating your lordship that my Lord Protector may 'take some resolutioune anent my sone Robert, because he is become weaklie by his closs keeping. 'Hopping your lordship will vse your best means for him, for I as a parent must wish him weill. 'Wishing your lordship all health and happiness, I rest.'[1]

Major-General Montgomerie made his escape from Edinburgh Castle in 1658, and his father and eldest brother appear, from the following letters, to have suffered on account of this —

'Pleas your Excellence — My seicknes and great distemper makes me this trublesome, in 'regaird we have bein close prisoners this six weiks, ever since my sones escaipe, for treuly we 'may say we ar innocent sufferers, because that we war als ignorant of his proceader as the 'child that is unborne, which imboldens me to desire that favour of your lordship, as to be putt 'in our former libertie. The Governour shous me, that he hes sent his order that he had for our 'imprisonment to your Excellence, that you may be the better informed. Hopping that you will 'give order to reponde us to our former libertie, as you shall obleidge me ever to remaine, 'your Excellences humble servant.'[2]

'My lord — In respect I haue bine werie unwell ever sins your pairting from this, I will 'humblie intrait your lordship to deliuer this inclossed to my Lord Generall Mounk, and desyr 'him to giue order to the Depute Gouernor L. Collonell Mayrs for to repond ws to our 'former liberty, sieng as yet he hes our bonds, and the only resson of our imprissonment 'remoued quich was my sons escape, and I houp your lordship will show my Lord Protector 'had sent ane order for it with yourself if you had acquented him suner. Houping you will 'pardon thus my trubling of you, I am your lordship's affectionat.'

'May it pleas your Excellence — Being in great distemper by reasone of my restrent this sevin 'weeks, I will humblie sutte yor lordship to repone me and my eldest sone to our former 'libertie, by your order to the Governour heir, seing the reason of our restrent is removed by 'my sones retaking (which treuly I occatiouned to satesfie the order, that the dep-Governour 'receavit as I have showen his highnes) and since the Governor hes sent your lordship the

[1] Old copy at Eglinton. [2] Ibid.

'coppie of his order, I will presume to say no more bot that this favour shall ever be acknouledge 'by your Excellences humble servant.'[1]

Major General Montgomerie, after his escape from prison, went abroad, and returned with Charles II. in 1660. The Earl himself was then released, and his estates restored to him. He did not, however, enjoy them long, as he died in the following year.

Such is an outline of the public life of the sixth Earl of Eglintoun, surnamed Greysteel. His private and domestic life may be gathered from letters printed in the present volume. He was a most affectionate husband, a kind parent and a warm-hearted friend. The correspondence between him and Anna Livingstoun, his first Countess, shows their great attachment to each other. He addresses her as his 'best beloved and sweettest heart,' and calls himself her 'most loving husband till 'death.' She addresses him as her 'dearest sweetheart,' and concludes, 'Yours ever 'more than myne owne.' He writes in 1615 that he 'sall euer be and euer hess bein 'reddey to testifie my unchangable affectione unto you, for I protest I have no con-'tentment in this world, but that quhilk I have of yourself, and that I have coum 'of you.'[2] In the Earl's letters is also shown his great tenderness to his children and grandchildren. In 1642 he writes, 'I must over to Ireland presentlie (Godwilling), 'becaus I hear my sone James is also fallen seik.'[3] Again, 'I desire yow to send 'west with this beirar my sones Sir Alexanders dochter, whome I have directed to 'have a care of hir, and zee sall give hir mother six dollors.' . . . 'I have directed 'the beirar to tak shoirt jurneyis with the bairne that she may be keeped warme.' '. . . Caus buy ane pund of razines to give her by the way. Also caus buy ane 'pair of rucht mittines, and caus mak ane pair of pleyding hois to keep hir warme, 'with ane pair of schoes gif neid beis.'[4] In another letter, the Earl exhibits the same kind concern for the 'bairnes' of a friend as for his own.[5]

His lordship was sometimes scarce of money. The large sums which he had paid to secure his right to the earldom of Eglinton, coupled with his expenses in the civil wars, created burdens which encumbered himself and his successors for many years. He had paid to Lady Margaret Montgomerie alone, for her right to the earldom of Eglinton, the sum of £54,333, 6s. 8d. Scots, while his outlays in the civil wars amounted to upwards of 48,000 merks.[6] In a letter to his chamberlain at Eagleshame he writes — 'I have been usinge all deligence to get money, and all that I

[1] Old copy at Eglinton. In 1654, Robert Baillie notices the imprisonment of 'Eglinton and his three sons;' and again, in 1656, he writes that there is 'No more word of 'delyvering Eglintoune, Montgomerie, and many more, 'than was the first houre.' [Baillie's Letters, iii. 249, 317.]

[2] Vol. i. No. 45.

[3] Vol. i. No. 128.

[4] Vol. i. No. 129.

[5] Vol. i. No. 137.

[6] Vol. ii. p. 291, No. 220.

'can gett at this tyme is ten pounds sterling.' . . . 'God knows the troubl I have 'been in to gett thir moneys.'[1] A nobleman of his rank and fortune in the present day, would consider it a hard case to have to use so much trouble and diligence to raise the small sum of £10. In another letter in 1658, the Earl again adverts to the difficulty of raising money—'I sie ther is many seiking silver. I pray God 'that ye get it, that they may get satisfactione, for I sall be als willing to give it as 'they sall desyre it, if I can have it. . . . Our vexationes and burdines is a great 'trowbill. I pray God to comfort me, and to bring me out of them. . . . We are 'mightilie burdened with freinds which is a great fashrie to me, for Gariltoune beis 'heir either this night or the morrow.'[2] He did not always complain of the visits of his friends. In 1658 he received 'ane French monsiour, called ane Marquis,' and made considerable preparation for the suitable reception of the foreigner. He orders to be brought to Eglintoun 'three of the fatest beastis that is in the park' at Eagleshame, and also 'a suckeing weall, and cause send to the fouller, and sie if he can gett moor 'fowles or plivers, or partridges, or woodcokis, or any wild fowles;' also 'ane stone of 'great reasines thats new come home, and half ane stone good plumdamose, and half a 'stone of figg, and half a stone of small reasinges of cure.'[3] In the same letter, he requests his servant to 'sie for as much cloth as will be ane clock, and a cott to me 'of this cloth which ze sall receive the swach of, and buy it als cheap as ze can of 'aither of this two cullors.'

Although sometimes in derision called the 'pious Eglintoun,' the Earl was no doubt a man of really great piety and religious feeling.[4] His petition to the General Assembly against the translation of Mr. James Ferguson, minister at Kilwinning, shows that he had contributed 'to the work of God through the faithfull warning and 'upstearing quhilk I receaved both in publict and private from my ministers'—Mr. David Dickson and Mr. Robert Baillie.[5]

This Earl died at Eglinton Castle on 14th January 1661, aged seventy-three.[6]

[1] Vol. i. No. 148. The Earl's frequent allusion to his want of money has probably given rise to the two prayers or proverbs which have been attributed to him—'God 'send us some money, for they are little thought of that 'want it,' quoth the Earl of Eglintoun at his prayers: 'God 'keep ill geer out of my hands, for if my hands once 'get it, my heart will never part with it.' 'The Earl of 'Eglinton turned off his chaplain, and said publick prayers 'in his own family, where these two proverbs were two 'standing petitions.' [Kelly's Scottish Proverbs, p. 113.]

[2] Vol. i. No. 211.

[3] Vol. i. No. 210.

[4] At his devotions, his lordship was remarkable for solemnity and fulness in prayer; and certain profane persons mimicked him, for the amusement of those who should have discouraged such conduct. [Pepy's Memoirs.]

[5] Vol. ii. p. 312, No. 228.

[6] Lamont's Diary, p. 131. and Retour of Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, 7th May 1661. In the General Assembly held in August 1643, it appears that Lord Eglintoun expressed himself as not content to be excluded from the burial of their fathers in the church. Baillie's Letters, ii. 93. The Eglinton family have always had their burying place in the church of Kilwinning.

He married first, on 22nd June 1612, Lady Anna Levingstoun, eldest daughter of Alexander, first Earl of Linlithgow. Her ladyship was for some time one of the maids of honour to Anne of Denmark, Queen of James VI. His Majesty assured her father by letter, dated 11th December 1605, that her behaviour was very good, and that, if a fit marriage fell out for her, he would pay her dower, and defray all other charges belonging thereunto.[1] The children of this marriage were five sons and two daughters —

1. Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun.
2. Sir Henry Montgomerie of Giffen. 'Upon the 26th of Junij 1614, my Lady 'Eglintoun was delyuerit of hir secund sone, callit Harie. The Queins 'Majestie being his godmother, he was baptized upon the 21st of August.'[2] On the 11th of October in the following year, his mother writes from Setoun to his father, that Henry is better than he left him — 'I caus'd 'wysh his moueth for the watter cancar; and Hew hes ane gret car of your 'litle dodgue.'[3] Anna Countess of Winton writes, on 8th September 1617, to her sister-in-law, Lady Eglintoun, that her son 'George has his love remembered to 'Harie, rendering him most hearty thanks for his trumpet. In recompence whereof, 'with the next occasion, he will send Harie ane sawce.'[4] Henry and his eldest brother, Lord Montgomerie, were enrolled students at the University of Glasgow on 29th February 1628.[5] He travelled on the Continent in 1632.[6] He was at Sommer in the autumn of 1633, and proposed staying there the ensuing winter, having begun his reading, fencing, dancing, mathematics and writing. He returned to Scotland in 1634,[7] along with his eldest brother, who had joined him in the previous year. He had a charter of the lands of Giffen, 31st July 1636. He married, contract dated 25th and 29th January 1640, Lady Jean Campbell, sister of Archibald Marquis of Argyle, relict of Robert, first Viscount of Kenmure, but 'died without heirs.' His testament was made on 23rd December 1642, and his wife is nominated his sole executrix.[8] He died on 3rd May following; and on the 15th March and 29th July 1644, his relict was confirmed executrix to him by the Commissary of Glasgow.[9] In terms of the contract of marriage, the Viscountess, as the survivor of her husband, succeeded to

[1] Vol. i. No. 2. It is probably this Countess of Eglintoun who is referred to by Wodrow, when he states, that he heard his father tell, that when Mr. David Dickson, minister, came in to see the Lady Eglintoun, who at the time had with her the Lady Wigtoun, Culrosse, &c., and they all caressed him very much — he said, 'Ladys, if all this 'kindness be to me as Mr. David Dickson, I cun you nae 'thank; but if it be to me as a servant of my Master's, 'and for his sake, I take it all weel!' [Wodrow's Analecta, i. 19]

[2] Genealogy of the Setons, C. K. Sharpe's Edit. p. 52.

[3] Vol. i. No. 46.

[4] Vol. i. No. 53.

[5] Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis, vol. iii. 80.

[6] Vol. i. No. 86.

[7] Vol. i. No. 103.

[8] Vol. ii. p. 294, No. 222.

[9] Commissary Records of Glasgow, vol. 27.

the barony of Giffen; and by disposition, dated 9th May 1648, she sold the barony to her father-in-law, Alexander Earl of Eglintoun, for a life annuity of 2500 merks. On 3rd March 1673, Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, granted to the Viscountess an assignation to the feu-duties of the barony of Giffen in security of that annuity. The decease of Sir Henry without issue is further shown, in a letter to the eighth Earl of Eglintoun, soon after his succession to his father, from William Caldwell at Tynon, near Ardmaghe, 15th February 1670, who writes—

'If you think fitt yow may misken any deed done by your father to any anent the barony 'of Giffen, for he was not retoured right to it, for your lordship's grandfather was not in 'fie, for he provyded it to Sir Henry, who died in anno 1644, and so your lordship may enter 'air to him. As for the nonentries since his death, the Lady Kenmure stands the prince 'tenent, and your grandfather and your father's possession was onlie by the Lady Kenmure. 'Peruse your charter chist with Monkridding privately, and it is likly ye will see what I 'say about Sir Henrie, for my memorie so serwes me.'[1]

3. Alexander, born 8th November 1615.[2] In December 1619, he was residing at Callendar with his grandfather, the Earl of Linlithgow, who then sent to the Countess of Eglintoun Alexander's 'portrat,' which, he says, her ladyship 'sall think guid off, and hoipis in God he sall mak ane prettie 'man.'[3] Alexander was still at Callendar in 1620. Along with his brothers, Lord Montgomerie and Henry, he was educated at the University of Glasgow till the year 1632-3, when they went to France, and continued their education for several years. Mr. William Home, who appears to have had charge of them, writes to their father from Rochelle, on 22nd March 1633, that Alexander was very well in his health all the way, except one day he was somewhat sick; but he presently thereafter grew well, and had 'ane good stomok.' Alexander wrote to his father from Paris, on 8th November 1633, that he had begun his fencing and dancing, and mathematics; but had suspended riding till he received his lordship's directions.[4] Alexander was still in Paris in November 1634, when Sir John Setone wrote to his father, that 'your thrid son is taking pennans with me till he enter in seruis, quhilk 'vilbe at the first day of the next yeir, God willing.'[5] Lord Montgomerie writes to his father on 16th November 1633, that Alexander is well in his health, and has grown much taller. Alexander was at Bar le Leone in September 1635. He returned

[1] Original letter at Eglinton.
[2] Original Contract at Eglinton, and Genealogy of the Setons, Maitland Club Edition, p. 70.
[3] Vol. i. No. 70.
[4] Vol. i. No. 93.
[5] Vol. i. No. 103.

to Scotland soon afterwards, and was early trained to a military life, having entered the army in 1635. He was a colonel in the Scots army acting against the rebels in Ireland, and died in July 1642. Robert Baillie records, that Lord Eglintoun left the General Assembly at St. Andrews on 29th July 1642, 'being much afflicted 'with the death of his noble sonne Sir Alexander, the colonell.'[1] He died unmarried.[2]

The following account of the money in Alexander's repositories at the time of his death, and the division thereof between his two younger brothers James and Robert, has been found amongst a number of miscellaneous papers—

The just accompt of the moneys that was found in Sir Alexander Montgomeries tronke and purses, in presence of My Lord of Ardes and the said Sir Alexander's tuo brethren at Newtoun, the 5th day of August 1642.

Imprimis, of tuentie tuo shillings peeces — threescore and eight.

Item, of tuentie shillings peeces — nyneteene.

Item, one ten shillings peece — one.

Item, another peece of gold with a crosse and foure crounes vpon the one syde.

Item, of English moneys, eight pounds fyve shillings tuo pence sterling, and eight Scotts pennyes.

Item, three gold woups, one of them being set with rubies.

Item, tuo silver casketts and an etuy.

Item, a mounter.

Depursed out of the moneys and gold abovewritten.

Imprimis, of the English money abovewritten, the whole thereof is delivered equallie to Captaine James and Captaine Robert betwixt them.

Item, deliuered to them of the gold abovewritten, to either of them a tuentie shillings peece.

Item, to William Shaw, by a particular accompt delivered to William Hoome for things bought for the funerall, elleven pounds ten shillings tuo pence ster.

Item, deliuered to William Seton, which he gave out at the Colonell's direction, as appeares by the particular accompt thereof, fifteene shillings and three pence sterling.

Item, to the tuo footemen, seventeene shillings and sex pence sterling the peece, which payes their dyet till Tuesday next, being the 9th day of this instant August.

Item, to John Peebles for some accompts which was resting to him, and for his dyet till Tuesday next, tuentie foure shillings and elleven pence sterling.

Item, to My Lord of Ardes servants of the house, tuo pounds fifteen shillings sterling.

Summa of the depursements abovewritten is — 28$^{lib.}$ 5s. 6d. sterling.

Item, to the young man that doubled these accompts, one shilling eight pence sterling.

[1] Baillie's Letters, ii. 49.

[2] Broomlands MS. He left a natural daughter, Katherine Montgomerie, who was born before 1642, and was provided to the sum of 2000 merks Scots, under a bond by her grandfather, the sixth Earl of Eglintoun, dated 19th May 1660. [Original at Eglinton.]

So remaines of the whole charge of moneys, threescore and seven tuentie tuo shillings pecces, which is laid into the tronk.[1]

Influenced probably by the circumstances in which Lord Montgomerie was placed through the forfeiture of his estates by Cromwell, Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, granted, on 14th June 1655, a charter of the earldom of Eglinton in favour of his grandson, Alexander Master of Montgomerie, and his heirs-male therein enumerated, who were, first, Francis Montgomerie, immediate younger brother-german of the Master; second, Colonel James Montgomerie, second son of the Earl; third, Major-General Robert Montgomerie his brother-german, youngest son of the Earl.[2] It is clear from this settlement of the earldom of Eglinton, that Henry and Alexander, the second and third sons of the sixth Earl, had predeceased without male issue, and that Colonel James Montgomerie was then the nearest heir-male to his eldest brother, Hugh Lord Montgomerie, after his two sons Alexander and Francis. The same limitation of the earldom of Eglinton was repeated in a Crown charter in favour of Alexander, Lord Montgomerie (afterwards ninth Earl of Eglintoun), dated 9th February 1677.

4. Colonel James of Coilsfield, ancestor of the present Earl of Eglinton. [Vide Coilsfield Branch.]

5. Robert, the fifth son, was educated at the University of Glasgow, in which he was enrolled as a student, on 1st March 1637.[3] He adopted the military profession, and became a major-general, greatly distinguishing himself during the civil wars. He fought, as we have already seen, in his father's regiment at Long-Marston Moor, in 1644, where he was severely wounded. He defeated the English under Cromwell near Musselburgh, on 31st July 1650, according to Sir James Balfour.[4] 'One Wednisday 31st 'Julij, Gen. Maior Rob. Montgomerey, Colonell Straquhan, led out a pairty against the 'enimey, of 2000 horsse and 500 foote, and beatt him soundlie; and if he had had '1000 more, they had routted his quhole armey. They killed to him 5 Colonells and 'L. Colonells; mortly wounditt L. Gen. Lambert, and aboue 500 souldiers, and re-'turned with no great losse.' When Charles II., on the 4th October of the same year, suddenly fled from Perth, a flight commonly called the 'Start,' Colonel Montgomerie was sent after him with two regiments of horse to bring him back. He conducted him from Huntly Castle, in the Carse of Gowrie, to Perth, the following Sabbath.[5]

Towards the end of the year 1650, General Montgomerie had an affair with the

[1] Original account at Eglinton. 'Allowit to the compter 'for debursingis in Irland at the buriall of vmquhill Sir 'Alexander Montgomerie . . . iij^{c} lxv^{li} ^{b} xviij^{s} viij^{d}' [Account of William Home, factor at Eagleshame, 1641-1642, at Eglinton.]

[2] Original charter in Eglinton Charter-chest.

[3] Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis, vol. iii. page 90.

[4] Balfour's Annals, iv. 87.

[5] Ibid. iv. 113.

English, and forced his way by Kilsyth, killing seven of the enemy and taking four prisoners. Immediately afterwards the forces in the west were directed to join with Montgomerie, and receive his orders. At Stirling, on the 7th of May 1651, the army of horse being divided into seven brigades, Major-General Montgomerie had the second brigade assigned to him, consisting of the regiments of the Earls of Linlithgow and Dunfermline, and Lord Cranstoun. The following account of the gallant conduct of General Montgomerie, at the battle of Worcester, is taken from the Boscobel Tracts: 'Major-General Robert Montgomerie commanded the brigade stationed at Powick 'Bridge, on the left bank of the Severn, and was opposed by Fleetwood and Ingoldsby, 'who advanced under a brisk fire to attack him. Montgomerie, after maintaining his 'post till his ammunition was expended, was forced to abandon Powick Bridge in dis-'order; and the Protector having at the same time overpowered the equally gallant 'defence offered by Pitscottie and his handful of men, only 300 Highlanders (by which 'the Republicans were enabled to cross the Severn, and outflank General Montgomerie), 'passed the Severn on pontoons, leaving Montgomerie in full retreat towards the city of 'Worcester.' General Montgomerie was imprisoned in Edinburgh Castle in 1654, and made his escape in 1658. He was at Tours in October 1658, and at Mons in November of the following year. From Tours he writes to his brother, Colonel James Montgomerie, that he was resolved at present to lead a single life as long as he lived, which he apprehended would not be long.[1] The general soon changed his mind as to marriage. In the year following this resolution to lead a single life, he intimates to his brother the colonel, that he had written to his father of a lady that is pleased to have an esteem for him above all others, and that he has all the assurance of her affection he could wish for, under her hand. But he was not yet assured of her portion.[2] This proposed match appears to have been broken off. On his return with Charles II. in 1660, he was made one of the 'gentlemen of his Majesty's Bedchamber.' He married, contract dated 4th September 1662, Elizabeth Livingstone, daughter of James Viscount of Kilsyth, by whom he had a daughter, who died without issue, and two sons —

1. Alexander, who died without issue before 2nd March 1710, on which date Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield raised letters against Captain James Montgomerie as apparent heir to his brother Alexander, deceased.

2. James, above mentioned, who was a captain in the army in 1710. James being omitted in the entail of the Eglinton estates made by the ninth Earl, as hereinafter shown, must then have been dead without issue.

[1] Vol. i. No. 209.

[2] Vol. i. No. 212.

General Montgomerie died in December 1684;[1] and on 1st February 1690, his eldest son, Alexander, was served heir to him.[2] The general was survived by his wife, who married, secondly, before 24th January 1688, Captain George Douglas, brother of Sir James Douglas of Kellhead.[3]

In Law's Memorials, there is recorded a case of witchcraft, which happened at the house of General Montgomerie, in Irvine. The story is thus related by Law —

'About the same time, February 1682, in the house of Major General Montgomerie (old 'Eggletoun's son, *i. e.* Eglintoune's son, Major-General Robert Montgomery, fifth son of Alex- 'ander, sixth Earl of Eglintoune (who, on account of his courage, had the popular appelation of 'Gray-steel) was, at the Restoration 1660, appointed one of the gentlemen of his Majesty's 'bed-chamber. He married Elizabeth, only daughter of James, first Viscount of Kilsyth) at 'Irvine, there being some things of silver work stollen in that house from his lady, there is a 'servant women of their own they blame for them; the lass being innocent takes it ill, and tells 'them, if she should raise the devil, she should know who took these things that were missed, 'which they let pass lightly as a rash word; but she being resolute, was as good as her word, 'and on a day goes down to a laich cellar, takes the Bible with her, and draws a circle about 'her, and turns a ridle on end twice from south to north, or from the right to the left hand, 'having in her hand nine feathers which she pulled out of the tail of a black cock; and having 'read the 51st (psalm?) forward, she reads backward, chapter ix. verse 19 of the Book of the Re- 'velation; he appears in seaman's cloathing, with a blew cap, and asks what she would; she puts 'one question to him, and he answers it; and she casts three of the feathers at him, charging 'him to his place again; then he disappears at this time. He seemed to her to rise out of the 'earth to the midle body. She reads again the same verse backward the second time, and he 'appears the second time rising out of the ground, with one leg above the ground; she asks a 'second question, and she casts other three feathers at him, charging him to his place; he again 'disappears. She reads again the third time the same verse backward, and he appears the third 'time with his whole body above ground (the last two times in the shape of a black grim man 'in black cloathing, and the last time with a long tail); she asks a third question at him, and 'casts the last three feathers at him, charging him to his place; and he disappears. The Major- 'Generall and his lady being above stairs, though not knowing what was a-working, were sore 'affraid, and could give no reason of it, the dogs of the city making a hideous barking round 'about. This done, the woman, in a gast and pale as death, comes and tells her lady who had 'stolen her things she missed, and that they were in such a chest in her house, belonging to 'some of the servants; which being searched, was found accordingly. Some of the servants, 'suspecting her to be about this work, tells the Major of it, and tells him they saw her go down 'to the cellar. He lays her up in prison; and she confesses, as is before related, telling them

[1] Eglinton Writs. [2] Inq. Ret. xli. 29. [3] Eglinton Writs.

'that she had learned it in Doctor Colvin's house in Ireland, who used to practice this. This 'was a high tempting of God. From this anecdote and others of a like nature, it would seem 'that Satan is fond of appearing in blue.'[1]

Earl Alexander's daughters, by his first marriage, were —

6. Lady Margaret, born on the 20th of February 1617,[2] married first, in 1642, John, first Earl of Tweeddale, as his second wife, and had one son, William Hay of Drummelzier.[3] Mr. Robert Baillie, who was minister of Kilwinning at the time of this marriage, has given the following account of the proceedings on the occasion —

'I had been often grieved with the excessive drinking of sundry of my parochiners: When 'my Lord Eglintoun's daughter, my Lady Yester, was going to be married, I went over and 'admonished my lord, and his children, and his servants, that they would beware of excesse; and 'in regard my Lord Seatoun, Lord Semple, and other papists, would be present, I entreated the 'ordinar exercises of religion in the family might not be omitted, for their pleasure; notwithstanding all were omitted. My Lord Eglinton himself stayed out of the kirk on Sunday afternoon to 'bear my Lord Seaton company. My Lord Montgomerie having invited all the company to his 'house, there was among the lords more drink than needed; among some of the gentlemen and 'servants evident drunkenness. One that served a gentleman of my flock, who oft before had 'been excessive in drinking, within two days being in company with a gentleman of our neighbour 'paroche, with whome at Newcastle, when both had been in drink, he had an idle quarrele, they 'fell in words, though neither then was drunk, the other strooke him dead with a whinger at one 'stroke, and for his rashness, had his head next day stroke off by the Justice. It had been a verie 'great losse of both the young gentlemen. The day there after, being Sonday, I was in high 'passion, Satan having so much prevailed at my elbow, and in the zeale of God, in presence of all, 'did sharplie rebuke all sins came in my way, especiallie drunkenness and coldryfness in religion; 'somewhat also of the breach of covenant was spoken. This was evill taken by many of the lords, 'bot Callendar was most displeased: Eglintoun thought himself publicklie taxed, and complained to 'everie one he mett with. To all that spoke to me, I replied I had not spoken any thing personallie, bot when upon so horrible occasion God's Spirit had moved me, from the word of God, to 'rebuke open sin; if any took it in evill part, they behoved to know I was the servant of God, and 'would not spare to reprove sin in the face of King Charles, let be of all the earles of Scotland; 'and if this displeased them, I wish they were assured it should be bot a beginning; so long as they 'were my parochiners, they should have much more of it. When my Lord Eglintoun some twenty 'days thereafter drew me by and admonished me sharplie of that days extravagancie and fume (as 'he spake), I told him I had done nought bot my dutie, whereof I did not repent, nor would not be 'directed by him in my sermons; and if he was displeased with my ministrie, he should not be long

[1] Law's Memorials, p. 219. [2] Genealogy of the Setouns, Sharpe's Ed., p. 53. [3] Broomlands MS.

'troubled with it. These things going farr and broad, bot not by me directlie nor indirectlie, 'Glasgow thought it then high tyme to stirr.'[1]

Lady Margaret Montgomerie married, secondly, William, ninth Earl of Glencairn, High Chancellor of Scotland, but had no issue. She died at Edinburgh, 27th January 1665, in her 48th year.

7. Lady Helenor, born 26th July 1618. On the 13th of November same year, her mother is advised by the Countess Dowager of Wintoun regarding the nursing of Lady Helenor—'I am verye glaid that ye haue gottin ane young milk woman to hir, 'seing her mamye proved not sufficient. Ye have done verye wyselie in doing the 'samyn, for the young milk, with the help of God, will bring hir to agane.'[2] Helen, as second daughter of her father, had a bond of provision from him for 15,000 merks, dated 20th July 1618.[3] She died young.[4]

8. Lady Anna, the youngest daughter, is mentioned in a letter from her brother Alexander, dated 8th November 1633.[5] She is again mentioned by him in another letter, dated 6th November 1642, as having been very ill.[6] Among the letters printed are two from her to her stepmother, Margaret Scott, Countess of Eglintoun, both dated in 1649.[7] She died unmarried.[8]

Anna Countess of Eglintoun died on 12th November 1632, and was interred at Kilwinning on the 16th of that month, 'without ceremony of Armes, and a preaching was made.'[9]

The Earl married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of Walter, first Lord Scott of Buccleuch, relict of James, sixth Lord Ross, but by her he had no family. Lady Margaret died at Hull, where the Earl was a prisoner, 5th October 1651. Her body was embalmed and brought by sea to Dalkeith, by her nephew, Francis Earl of Buccleuch.[10]

XIX. Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun [1661–1669],

Succeeded his father Alexander, sixth Earl, on 14th January 1661. He was born on 30th March 1613.[11] During his childhood he lived much at Seton with his grandmother, Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun, and his cousins the young Setons, amongst whom he appears to have received his early education. In the family correspondence, in the years 1617–18–19–20, allusion is made to Lord Montgomerie as 'ane good scoller' and

[1] Letters, ii. pp. 6, 7.
[2] Vol. i. No. 62.
[3] Eglinton Writs.
[4] Genealogy of the Setouns, Sharpe's Ed. p. 53.
[5] Vol. i. No. 93.
[6] Vol. i. No. 140.
[7] Vol. i. Nos. 182, 185.
[8] 13th December 1649 — The Earl of Eglintone signified to the Presbytery that he could not get waiting upon them concerning the kirks, because of the burial of his daughter. [Irvine Presbytery Records.]
[9] Balfour's Annals, ii. 192, and Burial Register in Lyon Office, Edinburgh, i. pp. 60-2.
[10] Balfour's Annals, iv. p. 352. Record of Testaments, Edinburgh, 28th September 1652, vol. 66.
[11] Genealogy of the Setouns, Sharpe's Edition, p. 52.

'bussie leirning everie day.'[1] He was on 29th February 1628, enrolled as a student of the University of Glasgow with his two younger brothers, Henry and Alexander.[2] There is still preserved at Eglinton a memorandum of the 'plenishing sent with 'the bairnes to Glasgow, the 22nd of February 1627.' The 'bairnes clothes' are thus enumerated —

'Imprimis, to Lord Hew ane stand of satting clothes, with ane pair silk stokingis, ane pair 'gairteris and rosses, with gold and sylver perling; ane red and yellow fether; ane scarlet clok 'and wupe; twa reid freise waist cottis, ane gylt sword and serff; two pair of welvot pantonis 'with sylver lace; ane stand of scarlet clothis; Item, ane castor felt hat with ane commoun felt 'hat, and twa gold hat bands.

'Item, to Henrie ane stand of scarlet, ane stand of reid camlett with gairteris and rosses with 'sylver pairling, and ane vther pair gairtouris of grin silk, and ane gylt suorde, and ane scerff 'with ane broun fedder: Twa hattis, ane gold and ane silk hat band; ane pare silk stokins.

'Item, to Alexander ane stand of scarlit and ane stand of reid camlet, with ane pair gairterris 'and rosses; twa hattis, ane gold ane silk hat band. Item, sex pair of wovin worsit stokingis.

'Item, to Henrie and Alexander, twa reid scarlet clokis.'[3]

Lord Montgomerie appears to have remained at Glasgow till the beginning of the year 1633, when he went to Paris to prosecute his studies, and particularly the art of fortification and other military matters. In a letter to his father, dated London, 6th April 1633, he gives an interesting account of his journey thither, and of his introduction to Court and London society.[4]

Lord Montgomerie wrote to his father from Paris on the 16th of September 1634, that he had 'stayed' his voyage to Holland, and purposed to be at London against the 1st of October. After their return from France, Lord Montgomerie and his brother Henry spent some time in London; and Sir David Cuninghame, in a letter dated 22nd November 1634, gives their father an account of the behaviour of his 'right noble 'sonnes.' 'Dureing the short time they have been heer, their discreet and well-'fashioned cariage and behaviour hath beene such as hath gained favour and respect 'from all.'[5]

One of Lord Montgomerie's masters was Robert Baillie, afterwards Principal of Glasgow College. Baillie writes, at the close of 1631 or beginning of 1632 — 'My 'verie good Lord, my Lord Montgomerie, in whose education from a child I have had 'some hand, out of a tender affection towards me, when I had been some years his

[1] Vol. i. Nos. 64-71.

[2] Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis, vol. iii. p. 80. In the same volume, it is stated that the Earl of Eglintoun's three sons with their 'pedagoge,' entered the college as 'buirders,' the 4 of November 1628, and that they 'begouth 'to get ane pynt of beir everie nicht frae the third of 'December. [Ibid. p. 530.]

[3] Original at Eglinton.

[4] Vol. i. No. 90.

[5] Vol. i. No. 104.

'master in the schools, brought me thence with him to be his own preacher, at his 'parish kirk (Kilwinning), for term of life, showing me alwayes so much courtesie in 'every thing as my heart could wish.'[1] During the subsequent ten years, the course pursued by Lord Montgomerie in reference to church matters, did not always please the rigid Covenanter; and Baillie occasionally listened to calls from other parishes. In 1642, he received a call to Glasgow; and seems to have had much difficulty in making up his mind, whether to stay at Kilwinning or remove to Glasgow. He says — 'My great grief for my Lord Montgomerie his change of partie, notwithstanding of all 'I could either say or wryte to him, and for his presenting that infamous supplication, 'did further me in my purpose to leave him: yet he was verie vehement in the Pres-'byterie that day for my stay, as also my Lord of Eglintoun, his father, thereafter, 'in the visitation of our church.'[2]

At the same time, Baillie addressed the following earnest remonstrance to Lord Montgomerie on the course which he was taking —

'My verie good lord — However at our last meeting, I did show your lordship my mind 'plainly enough, yet the great respects, which sixteen or seventeen years intime familiaritie 'oblidges me to carrie to your lordship, forces me to wryte my mind. That which I told is come 'to passe. We who loves your lordship's person and honour, have our eares beaten in all com-'panies, at home and abroad, with reports of you that vexes our heart. At the first many whis-'pered, now all proclaimes, that your lordship, who had purchased latelie more love and honour in 'all Scotland, for your zeal and happie paines in the good cause, than any of your age, are now 'clean changed; that evidentlie, in your discourses with everie one, and in your actions, you 'syde with those whom all good men to this day, and yourself, were wont, before this voyage, to 'take for evill instruments, such as Montrose, Mortoun, William and Mungo Murrayes. On the 'contrare, to be averse from those whose labours God hes blessed to save our poor land, to your 'own knowledge, from imminent ruine, such as are Argyle, &c.; also, that in this new devyce, 'which all I know of anie goodness takes for alse wicked and dangerous a motion as ever yet was 'on foot, to divide our nation, to undoe our King, and make fire and sword to rage in all the isle, 'and that quicklie; to ranverse whatever our Assemblies and Parliaments have been doing these 'yeares bygone; to marre all that good which was begun to be done in the Church and State of 'England; to content none bot a faction of miserable malecontents, whom you were wont to know 'were readie, not onlie to sett kirk and countrie in a flame, bot to go to the ports of hell, to be 'avenged of these disgraces, most justlie their misdeservings hes procured. We hear, I say, that 'no man is more forward, in the late designe of these men, to draw our counsell, and so our

[1] Memoir of Robert Baillie, p. xxvii.

[2] Baillie's Letters, ii. 11.

'nation, upon the Parliament of England, as these who are injurious enemies to the person and 'prerogative of our Prince.

'My lord, the remainder of old kindness forces me to beseech your lordship, that the great 'honour, and sweet contentment of a good name is worth verie much; that the changing from the 'partie which you, alse much as anie, proclaimed to be for nought bot the honour of God, the 'reall good of the King, the weell of the countrie, to syde with a faction which you know sought 'nothing bot, by anie possible meanes, to set the feet of the King on the neck, both of the Church 'and State, of all his dominions, and that, not for anie love they carried to the Prince, bot alone 'for the satisfaction of their own ambition, revenge, and greed; who, for the attainment of their 'private ends, were ever ready to hazard the good King, and so the ruine of the King and all his 'dominions. Such a change in your lordship cannot be verie gracious, whatever be the pretext; 'yet, evidentlie to the sense of all reasonable men, these counsells must be of the Devill, which 'cannot faill to trouble, with great confusion, our poor land, newlie settled with so much travell 'and hazard; to keepe that miserable countrie of Ireland in that fyre of warre which was on 'the poynt of slockning; to bring most cruell warre on England, which was advanced to have 'made a fair reformation both in Church and State, to have put the King's revenues at home, 'his allayes, and opprest churches abroad, his buried honour everie where, to such a state as 'would have made us all rejoice. If your lordship, upon any private malcontent, or anie misin-'formations fra persones (of whose malicious humours, within these few months, you did nothing 'doubt), should give your heart to affect, or your power to second anie such counsells, I am per-'suaded you would doe what would bring to your God, and the cause you professed, great dis-'honour, to yourself disgrace, to your new friends no more reall help than others before of equall 'power to your lordship, bot to all your true friends a great deall of grief, and to none more, 'both of dolour and shame, than to me, who was alwayes wont, and still resolves to continue, a 'daylie interceder with God, for all I conceave to be for your true honour and weelfare. This 'is your affectionat friend and servant, R. Baillie.'[1]

Lord Montgomerie was at Paris in November 1633. In a letter written on the 16th of that month to his father, he says — 'I doe most humbly acknouleg your lordship's 'fatherly affection in the car your lordship taks in my affairs, quich I can never be 'suffitiently able to acknouleg, much les to acquit; bot sall creue God's assistance, that 'I may prove ane most humble and obedient sonne and servant to all your lordship's 'commandements.' Lord Montgomerie informs his father, by a letter dated Paris, 7th March 1634, that he had resolved to begin his travel that day to make a tour of all France, and to return so soon as he can to Paris to follow the Court. In another letter to his father, dated Paris 1634, he gives an account of his proceedings there —

[1] Letters, ii. pp. 35, 36.

My verie honorable lord and most louing father — I receiat your lordship's, daited the 9th of July, upon the 20th of Agust, after I had returned from my last voyage — your lordship's directions in this last being the same that wes contained in your former I have answered and sent home with Mr. Lokart a month ago, immediatly after I returned from my first voyage. As for my going to Holland, I find it altogether impossible kiping your lordship's dyet that ye have appointed, excep I uould neglec my exersissis, quhilk now I most renew in thus tyme that remains, being so long intermited by my uoyaeis; as also for fortifications, ther is non so regular nor strong to be sine ther as Nancy, Strasburge and others, that I have sine. I had much contentment in my last uoyage, hauing sine at La Mott the manir of persut and defence of ane besigid toune. It ues randrit upon composition; a myne hauing turned ouer on of the bastions in the fosse, quhilk maid ane sufitiant breche: quereupon the defendants ues forsid to rander, ther Gouernur being killid a month befor by ane cannon chot, quhilk notuitstanding wes euer consilled till the randring of the toune. I receued much courtesie of the commandars of the Scots regiment ther, and in spesiall of Colonell Hebrune, quho maid me acquent uith Marechall de la Force. The King is making ane armie 50,000 fut and 1000 horse. His intention is thoght for the Payis d'Artois and for Almangie. My lord, according to your lordship's derection, I haue resolued to pairt out of thiss the begining of October, if I receiue no other direction of your lordship. Sua praying God to preserue your lordship in all helth and happines, remembring my humble seruice to my brethering and sisters, and my blessing to my doghter, I humblie tak my liue, and rests,

Your lordship's most obedient sonne and seruitur,

H. L. MONTGOMERIE.

Like his younger brothers, Lord Montgomerie was early trained to a military life, and like his gallant father, took an active and important part in the civil wars which devastated the country.

In 1639, King Charles I. wrote a letter to Lord Montgomerie, urging him to attend his Majesty in London, to confer on the affairs of Scotland.[1] The result of this interview does not appear; but in the following year, his lordship was with the army of the Covenant that invaded England, and his signature is attached to the despatch from the Army to the Parliament, after the battle of Newburn, on 28th August 1640; on the 15th of the following month, he was appointed to occupy the castle of Tynemouth.[2] His lordship's brigade, from the 11th of August 1640 to the 25th of August 1641, averaged 1600 common soldiers, besides the officers of the staff and other officers.[3] Robert Baillie writes in 1639, that Lord Montgomerie's regiment was among the strongest. But the piety and military discipline of his people were commended above all the rest.[4]

[1] Vol. i. No. 10.
[2] Vol. ii. p. 293, No. 221.
[3] Regimental accounts at Eglinton.
[4] Letters, i. 201.

It has been stated, that Lord Montgomerie was an ardent Loyalist, and raised a troop of horse in the year 1643, with which he marched and fought valiantly for the King at Long-Marston Moor.[1] If this was the case, he must there have encountered his father and younger brother Robert, actively engaged on the side of the Parliament. But the statement is erroneous. For months previous to that battle Lord Montgomerie was in frequent communication with Ferdinando Lord Fairfax, General of the Army of the Parliament of England, as may be seen from the letters.[2] For months subsequent to the battle Lord Montgomerie continued in communication with Lord Fairfax, and with Alexander Leslie, Earl of Leven, and David Leslie, the Generals of the Scotch Army.[3] It is impossible that Lord Montgomerie could at the sametime have been opposed to these officers.

But although he fought for the Covenanters, Lord Montgomerie seems to have been indifferent to the Covenant itself. In a letter from him to his father, dated 6th November 1643, he says—'As yet I have not subscrivide the Covenant by resson I have sum 'scruples, bot when your lordship returns, I thinke your lordship may do much to solve 'me of them.'[4] It may be doubted, however, whether Lord Montgomerie's scruples were overcome, as he seems to have been suspected, even by some of his own kindred, of not being consistent in the cause of the Covenant. Sir John Seton writes to the sixth Earl of Eglintoun on 7th October 1645, that he fears 'there be some cheef men amongst them '(and so it is generallie reported) that are more bent to advance their own passionat 'ends than the publicque well, and this good cause we have in hand . . . Amongst 'which, to my great regrate, the general worde goeth, that my Lord Montgommerie is 'accoumpted one. I houpe it is not so, and that he will follow the footsteps of his 'ever honored father.'[5]

Lord Montgomerie's ambiguous conduct may be accounted for by his being the brother-in-law of the first Duke of Hamilton, who in 1648 divided the councils of the Covenanters by entering into the Engagement for raising forces for the relief of Charles I., then a prisoner in the hands of his English subjects. Lord Montgomerie joined with his brother-in-law on this occasion; and, as his wife writes, was 'ernest and bent to 'follow this unhappie engagement.' She predicted the ruin of the enterprise, and used great exertions to prevent her husband joining it. For his share in the engagement Lord Montgomerie was deemed ineligible to any public office, unfit for active service in the army, and indeed, by the act of Classes, he was disqualified for any public employment. The Committee of Estates, held at Perth on 26th October 1650, passed

[1] Ayrshire Families, p. 238.
[2] Vol. i. Nos. 142, 143, 144, 151.
[3] Vol. i. No. 160.
[4] Vol. i. No. 140.
[5] Vol. i. No. 158.

an act in favour of Lord Montgomerie, declaring him to be capable of public trust, and free of any restraint. This act proceeded on the consideration of a petition by him, bearing that he had satisfied the Church for his failure in the matter of the late unlawful engagement against England, in being so far ensnared as to permit some officers to go about the levying of a regiment of horse, though he never embraced charge therein, neither was he at Stirling with the Duke of Hamilton; and that the Commission of the General Assembly had declared their acceptance of his satisfaction.[1] By the abolition of that act, he was relieved from these disabilities. Although Lord Montgomerie's satisfaction to the church courts was pleaded in favour of his obtaining a remission from the civil authorities, he had much trouble in satisfying the church. He appeared before the Presbytery of Irvine on the 11th September 1649, and humbly desired that the Presbytery would deal with the Commission of the kirk that his censure might be referred to the Presbytery. His lordship acknowledged the sinfulness and unlawfulness of the engagement; and after many trials of his repentance, the Presbytery obtained a remit from the Commission to receive his lordship to public satisfaction. One of the tokens of his repentance prescribed by the Presbytery was, that he should come out of his seat in church, and stand at the end of it, and thereafter subscribe the Covenant and band. In May 1650 Mr. James Ferguson, his minister, reported to the Presbytery, that Lord Montgomerie had satisfied, conform to the order, in every particular.[2] When the Committee of Estates were taking vigorous measures for the defence of the kingdom in 1651, it was ordered 'that the Lord Montgomerey haue '6 barrells of that pouder wich belonges to the publicke, wich was carried to the Ile 'of Bute (Cumbrae) for the defence of his housse, for wich the said Lord is to be 'comptable to the publicke for.'[3] On the appearance of Cromwell and his army in Glasgow, many of the inhabitants fled for safety. Principal Baillie took shelter for about ten months in Lord Montgomerie's castle in Cumbrae. He adds, that he left all his family and goods to Cromwell's courtesy, which indeed was great, for he restrained his soldiers, although Mr. Zachary Boyd railed on them all to their very face in the High Church.[4]

In the same year, his lordship was commissioned by Charles II. to convoke the committees of war in the bailliery of Cuninghame and sheriffdome of Renfrew, that they might appoint and turn out the levies of horse and foot necessary for the defence of the western districts. While Charles II. was in Scotland in 1651, he addressed several letters to Lord Montgomerie, who marched into England in the service of the

[1] Extract Act at Eglinton.
[2] Records of the Presbytery of Irvine.
[3] Balfour's Annals, iv. 244.
[4] Letters, iii. 119.

King, and fought at the battle of Worcester. Charles left the field with Lord Montgomerie, who was afterwards taken prisoner. Cromwell's Act of Grace and Pardon in 1654, specially excepts Lord Montgomerie, who had in various ways made himself obnoxious to the Protector, having on one occasion captured Archibald Hamilton, a brother of the Laird of Millburn, who was hanged for acting as one of Cromwell's spies.[1] Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, presented a petition to Cromwell's Council in Scotland for a provision to herself and her seven children. The Council, by an act signed by Broghill the president, on 6th May 1656, directed, that for the time elapsed since Lord Montgomerie's estate was declared forfeited, there should be allowed a fifth part of the profits, and that from the 3rd of March then last, so much of the victual and money rent as would amount to £100 yearly should be applied towards the support of herself and her many children. In a report by the Scotch to the English Privy Council, signed by George Monck on 8th November 1657, it is stated, that Lord Montgomerie hath behaved himself peaceably under the present government, since he was under the power thereof, and the Earl of Eglinton hath been accounted in all time preceding the late differences between the nations, one who by himself and family hath always assisted and taken part with the better and more godly part of this nation. Four years later the state of Lord Montgomerie's health disqualified him from active service for some time.[2] In 1663, his lordship addressed a long letter to the Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in reference to the Mount-Alexander family;[3] two years later, he addressed a letter to the Archbishop of Glasgow, condoling with him on the death of his son,[4] which was acknowledged by the Archbishop as a 'most Christian and compassionate 'letter, which spake your lordship as much a Christian and a person of true honour, 'as any I have met with in my tyme.'[5]

After the Restoration, King Charles II. granted to the Earl of Eglintoun, by signature under his hand, dated at Whitehall, 17th January 1662, the citadel, lying near the town of Ayr, commonly called the citadel of Ayr, and built by the late usurpers there, with the magazine-house thereof, walls, ditches, timber and iron-work belonging to and within the said citadel, as the same had been possessed by the late usurpers, or was then possessed by the forces. This grant proceeded upon a consideration of the good, true and thankful service done by the Earl, by his father and progenitors, to his Majesty and his deceased father of glorious memory, and in compensation, in some part, of the very great damages the Earl and his father had sustained in their several

[1] Memoirs of James Burns, bailie of Glasgow.
[2] Vol. i. No. 208.
[3] Vol. i. No. 215.
[4] Vol. i. No. 222.
[5] Vol. i. No. 223.

engagements for the royal interest, by the sequestration, forfeiture and fining of their estates, demolishing and plundering of their houses, by the late cruel usurpers.

In the beginning of the year 1665, the Government of King Charles II. issued orders, that all arms in the western shires of Scotland should be searched for and taken from the inhabitants. The nature of these orders will be seen from the following letter, addressed to the Earl of Eglintoun by the Earl of Rothes —

Forasmuch as his Majestie hes, vpon great and important reasons of State, commanded that all armes in the western shires of this kingdome be secured: Therefore, in obedience of his Majesties royall commands, by these presents wee authoriz, requyre and command yow furthwith, vpon sight heirof, to searche, by your selff, or some others whom you may trust, and for whom you will be answeirable, the houses of all fewers, tenents, and other inhabitants, and of all heritors within tha shire of Ranfrew, bailziare of Cuninghame, and regalitie of Kilwining, royaltie, regalitie, and burghes therof (except such who wer members in the last two sessiones of the late Parliament, or, according to the acts therof, are in exercise of some publict trust), and that yow secure all armes, such as muskets, gunes, pistolles, pickes, and other weapons bellicall, by puting them in some secure place till further order: and that yow returne a speidie accompt heirof betuixt and the thrid of May nixt. For which these shall be your warrand.

ROTHES.[1]

For the Erle of Eglintoun, with concurse of the Magistrats of the burghes royall within ther respective burghes.

Lord Eglintoun executed the disagreeable task thus imposed upon him with considerable reluctance, as will appear from the account of his proceedings, given in a letter from him to Rothes —

Eglintoun, 21 Aprill 1665.

May it pleass your Grace — In obedience to your Grace's commands, I waited vpon my Lord Linlithgow in Glasgow, and presently efter took cours for makinge the strickest and narrowest search I could through the shirridom of Ranfrew, baillerie of Cuningham and regality of Killwininge, al vpon on day, Tusday last, by sending smal parties of soldiurs (for those I could best trust to every paroch), who wer to scatter themselues so as they might with gretest expedition, and befor advertisement could wel be caried from one place to another, goe through all according as your Grace's order doth prescribe. I haue gottin ane acompt already from thos whom I entrusted for the baillerie and regality, which is breiflie this: I could not have beleued the weaknes of our country had been such as now I finde it. Efter the exactest search,

[1] Original Letter at Eglinton.

noe picks at all were found, except threty or 40 old ons, and not above 30 or 40 muskatts, whollie unfitt for sarvice, about six paire of pistolls, som gunns ore fouling peices, some considerable nomber of swords, wherof I canot yett give a full acomt till they come to me; only the soldiurs who were imployed in the search have brought me written obligatiouns from the severall hieritors, ingadging them selues, upon ther loyaltie and reputatioune, to send me both ther owin and ther tenants swords upon demand, nether will I demand them untill I receve furder orders from your Grace, becaus the soldiurs perswad me the country men or tenant's swords, not on among forty of them is vsfull for any sarvice, som cannot be drawin for rust, others the blade can hardly stick in the hilt; and for the considerable gentilmen and heeritours, their swords, which will amount to about 50 or 60, your Grace will wislie consider if even thers shall be taken from them; and what an act off infamie they will tak it, not to have the liberty of wearing a sword. However, I expect your Grace's ordours hierin, which shall be obeyed punctuallie; ffor, as I mentioned, they are all oblidged by writt to bring me all vpon demand.

And now, my Lord, haveing, as I presume to think, given your Grace's order most punctuall obedience, I humbly crave libertie to say freely, I could have wished your Grace and the Secret Cownsill had informed his Majestie how litell advantadge ther could be in such a search befor order had been given for it: I shall not speake to the task which it puts vpon all this country, wher I am sure are very many most loyall swbjects; but the thing it self, as it will no dowbt flee, so it doth carie in it a proclamatioun wnto all who heare it, that the enimie is suposed to have a partie among our selues, which I think, in point of state policie, should not be done, except ther wer necessitie for it; and yet such a trecherus desigine in the country, or some partie in it, were reall, which I speak trewlly I doe not beleve; for after my vtmost inquiry, I know not on in thos parts whom I have the leist ground to suspect for kieping corespondence with the enimie; and I think, befor the contrarie had been soe beleved as to mak such a publict proclamatioun of itt, ther should be mor then any rumours which have been spred oversee by thos our banished disloyall countrymen who have ther livlihood and subsistance, it is lyk from the enimie, for possessing them with such groundles hopes, which now will mak them have trust as if they had ane influence on the country, which I am confident they have not. Bot, my Lord, hoping and pleading your Grace will tak in good part that I have in this made vse of my wonted freedome, I doe only humbly now intreat, the thing being done, and therby our impotencie to defend our selues (if it wer against the landing of ane 100 men out of som privateers), being made known, your Grace in your wisdom would think vpon som way how I my self, at leist, and such loyall subjects as I am, may noe, in case of the meanest alarum from the most inconsiderable partie that may atempt to spoile our costs, be forced disgracefully to retire, livinge ther libertie to afright and destroy the country at ther plesur quhairin I will be loath to prescrive any thing in particular, but doe expect your Grace's determinatioun, which shall be execute to the vtmust of my power, who am,

Your Grace's most devoted humble servant.

My lord — Haveing also received ane acompt from my Sheriff-deput in Ranfrow, since the wrything of my letter, who had very active asistance of Lt. Muray of the Gard, in the search, they found nott aboue twenty muskitts in all that shire, and scarsh one of them fixed, and a few fyrloks, and aboutt forty swords that can be vsfull, ffor the English had depryved them, and all thir parts, of ther armes.[1]

Rothes, in his answer, which is dated the 27th of April 1665, thanked the Earl for his care and pains, and acting upon his recommendation, said that it was his inclination, and he judged it convenient, that the gentlemen and others should keep and wear their swords.[2]

His lordship was twice married; first, to Lady Anne Hamilton, eldest daughter of James, second Marquis of Hamilton. Their contract of marriage is dated 7th and 13th April 1631. Lord Montgomerie was then only eighteen years of age. They had one daughter, Lady Anna Montgomerie,[3] who was born before the 6th of April 1633, as, in a letter of that date, Lord Montgomerie sends his 'blissing to my doghter.'[4] Lady Anna received a bond from her father, Hugh Lord Montgomerie, for 40,000 merks Scots, as her portion by her deceased mother's contract of marriage. This bond is dated 29th January 1656, and it contains no reference to her alleged marriage to Robert Seton. Ann, Duchess of Hamilton, wrote on 9th February 1656 to Lord Montgomerie anent the marriage of his daughter Lady Anna, that in 'my humble opinion, a good husband 'would prove the best guerdian; and if your lordship think expedient, the widower 'lord you proposed, who, I was informed, had laetlie lost his sone, may posiblie be 'admeted without repugnans, since this affaer (as in justies it ought) is wholie refaered 'to your lordship's cayr for removeing prejudiciall aprahentions, and preventing futur 'inconvenients to hasten that, or any other honorable design, is the ernest entreties 'of—.' Lady Anna married, contract dated 17th and 28th September 1658, James, third Earl of Findlater, 'whose land she aired.'[5]

Lady Anne Hamilton, Lady Montgomerie, died in her sister's house of Struthers in Fife, on Sunday 16th October 1632, and was buried at the kirk of Kilwinning on 15th November.[6]

Lord Montgomerie married, secondly, Lady Mary Leslie, eldest daughter of John, sixth Earl of Rothes. Their contract of marriage is dated 17th and 24th December 1635. The Earl of Eglintoun, who is a party to the contract, provides Lady Mary in

[1] Copy at Eglinton.

[2] Original, ibid.

[3] Lady Anna is said to have married, first, Robert, son of Sir John Seton of Hailes. It is also said that Robert died in 1655, and that Lady Anna had a posthumous son, Robert, born on 3rd June of the same year. These statements are not supported by evidence, and they appear to proceed upon a mistake. [Wood's Peerage, i. p. 503.]

[4] Vol. i. No. 90.

[5] Genealogy of the Setons, p. 72.

[6] Burial Register in Lyon Office, Edinburgh, p. 60.

liferent to the lordship of Ardrossan, and his houses in Kilwinning, called the Easter Chalmers. Lord Rothes, on the other hand, gave his daughter a tocher of 25,000 merks Scots. In a letter approving of the match, Lord Rothes says, that he shall give beyond his small power, and more than ever he intended to have done to any, both for respect of Lord Eglintoun and for the good disposition of Lord Montgomerie.[1] The issue of this marriage was two sons and five daughters —

1. Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun.

2. Hon. Francis Montgomerie of Giffen, who received the estate of Giffen from his father by disposition dated 29th January 1669, to which his elder brother Alexander Lord Montgomerie is a consenter. Francis represented Ayrshire for several years in the Scotch Parliament. He was nominated one of the Commissioners for the Treaty of Union in 1705, and supported that measure in all its stages. After the Union he was elected a member of the Parliament of Great Britain, in February 1707. He was a Privy Councillor and one of the Lords of the Treasury to King William and Queen Anne. He married, first, in 1674, Margaret Countess of Leven, who died in November of that year without issue. Her husband was provided to the liferent of a part of her estates, which led to a litigation between him and her representatives. In the course of the proceedings, it was averred, that the Countess was so infirm and valetudinary that she was averse to marry. It was answered, that the Countess was a proper young lady, and discovered as great inclinations as her modesty would allow for the marriage. She lived and died in a married state, with all the solace and comfort any wife did ever express towards her husband, and the opinion of physicians is not worth a sixpence, though any were so prostitute as to declare the same, it being certain, that ladies ten times more infirm and valetudinary than ever the Countess was, might have brought forth both living and lively children.[2] Francis married, secondly, Elizabeth, born 17th June 1650, daughter of Sir Robert Sinclair of Longformacus, Baronet, relict of Sir James Primrose of Barnbougle, Knight, and had issue by her —

1. John Montgomerie, lieutenant-colonel in the 3rd regiment of Foot Guards; chosen member of Parliament for Ayrshire at the general election in 1708; re-chosen, 1710, 1713, 1715, and 1722. Colonel Montgomerie was Master of the Mint in Scotland, and one of the Gentlemen of the Bedchamber to King George the Second when Prince of Wales. The estate of Giffen was acquired about 1725 from Colonel Montgomerie and his creditors by Sir John Anstruther of that Ilk, Baronet, who sold it to Archibald, eleventh Earl of Eglintoun, in 1786. The Colonel and Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield were nearest male heirs to

[1] Vol. i. No. 106.

[2] Information for Mr. Francis Montgomerie *contra* the Earl of Leven, 1684. [Melville Charter-chest.]

the tenth Earl of Eglintoun in 1729.[1] The Colonel married, contract dated 28th September 1704, Lady Mary Carmichael, second daughter of John, first Earl of Hyndford. They had a daughter, Beatrix, born 27th September 1705, who died unmarried; but no male succession. In the entail of the Eglinton estates, executed by the ninth Earl in 1729, 'Colonel John Montgomery, only son now living of the deceased Mr. Francis Mont-'gomery of Giffen,' is called to the succession after the Earl's own two sons. The Colonel was appointed Governor of New York, and died there in 1760.

2. Colonel Alexander Montgomerie died of his wounds at the battle of Almanza in Spain, 1711, without issue.
3. Elizabeth, married the Hon. Colonel Patrick Ogilvy of Lonmay and Inchmartin, second son of James, third Earl of Findlater, and died 29th June 1753, having had issue.
4. Mary, born 7th February 1690.

The five daughters of the seventh Earl, who were all born previous to November 1658, were —

3. Lady Mary, married George, fourth Earl of Winton. Lamont thus notices the marriage — 'The Earl of Wintoune, being but a youth, married Lady Mary Mont-'gomery, the Earl of Eglintoun's eldest daughter. The marriage feast stood at her 'father's house in the west country, 4th September 1662.'[2] They had one daughter, Lady Mary Seton, who died in childhood, aged three years. Lady Mary Montgomerie, Countess of Winton, died in the year 1677, as appears from the confirmation of her testament by the Commissaries of Edinburgh on 18th March 1678.

4. Lady Margaret. Among the letters, is one from her to the Earl of Loudoun in 1666, apparently in answer to one from his lordship proposing marriage. The terms of this short and equivocal epistle present a contrast to the decided refusal given by her grand-niece, Lady Bettie Montgomerie, to a similar proposal to her on the part of Mr. Ogilvie.[3] Lady Margaret afterwards married James, second Earl of Loudon, and had issue.

5. Lady Eleonora, married, before 1679, Sir David Dunbar of Baldoon, Baronet, and had issue. She died at Kilwinning in September 1687. It is probably to the death of this lady that Wodrow refers in his Analecta. 'Mr. Tate informs me that he had 'this accompt, I think, from Mr. Rouat himself. He was living in Kilwinning, if I 'remember right, and the Lady Baldune was likewise there. She had been tender for 'some time. Mr. Rouat was one night, and (I think in bedd) that word was born in 'upon him, 'open the gates, for my servant cometh!' He did not know what it

[1] Letter from Susanna Countess Dowager of Eglintoun, 23rd March 1729, at Salton.

[2] Lamont's Diary. The Earl, then Master of Montgomerie, is the 'Sandie' mentioned in his mother's letter, 19th December 1642, vol. i. p. 136.

[3] Vol. i. Nos. 229 and 248.

'meaned, and when musing on it, a servant knocks, and calls Mr. Rouat to goe to the 'Lady Baldune, for she was very ill. Mr. Rouat presently went, and said he believed 'she was a dying; and he was not much above half an hour with her till she dyed. 'He bottomed his expectations on that word; and she died most pleasantly, and in 'the Lord.'[1] In the second volume there is an inventory of the jewels, household furniture, and library of Lady Baldoon. The books are chiefly on theological subjects.[2]

6. Lady Christian, married, 16th February 1672, John, fourth Lord Balmerino, and had issue. She died before 7th June 1687.

7. Lady Anne, married Sir Andrew Ramsay of Abbotshall, Baronet. They had one son, Sir Andrew, who got the estate of Wauchton, which he wasted before he was thirty years of age, and died unmarried.

The seventh Earl died at Eglinton in the end of February 1669, aged fifty-six, having possessed the titles and estates for eight years.[3]

XX. Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun [1669-1701],

Succeeded his father, 'being a very young man.'[4] He was born about the year 1640.

Although he possessed the title for thirty years, there are fewer notices preserved of his personal history than of that of any of the preceding Earls. This is accounted for by his having given over the estates to his eldest son, on the occasion of the marriage of the latter in 1676, and retiring from the active charge of them on an annuity of 6000 merks Scots. Having married for his second and third wives English ladies, he resided with them in England, and was thus prevented from attending to ordinary Scotch affairs. Previously to his residence in England, however, he appears to have taken an interest in questions which engaged the attention of Parliament. When Lord Newark came to Parliament to fortify the Court party, at the request of Lord Balcarres, he was induced, by the training of Lord Eglintoun, to declare against it.[5] The Earl of Eglintoun, then Lord Montgomerie, succeeded in getting the burgh of Irvine relieved of the burden of quartering, and, on 8th July 1667, the burgh made him a present of £50 in acknowledgment of his services.[6] The Earl was admitted a mason in the court of the lodge of Kilwinning, on 21st January 1674.[7] The author of the Montgomery Manuscripts, William Montgomery, second son of Sir James Montgomery in Ireland, states, that he 'well knew Alexander Earl of Eglintoun. He

[1] Analecta, ii. 157. [2] Vol. ii. p. 338, No. 253.

[3] The account of the expenses of the Earl's funeral is at Eglinton. One of the bills is for 'a lead coffin and some 'tobacco pipes.'

[4] Viscount Kingston's History of the Setons. Maitland Club Edition, p. 72.

[5] Chronological Notes, p. 173. 26th May 1685.

[6] Irvine Burgh Records. [7] Kilwinning Mason Records.

'was commonly called Greysteel for his truth and courage.' Also Hugh, Colonel James, and Robert his sons: 'But, most of all, I am known to Alexander, the 'present Earl of Eglinton, having often, many years ago, conversed with him; and 'last of all in Edinburgh, anno 1689 (I being a voluntary exile during the troubles 'then in Ireland), in which year his lordship told me there had been seventeen Earls 'of his ancestors, all Eglinton, of the name of Alexander (which, in English, is a 'worthy helper of men), and none of them all of any other proper name but the two 'Hughes and the said Robert aforesaid.'[1] This story of the *eighth* Earl of Eglintoun having stated that there had been *seventeen* earls of the name of Alexander, is quite in keeping with sayings still occasionally attributed to the Irish.

On the occasion of the marriage of his eldest son, Lord Montgomerie, the Earl of Eglintoun resigned his estates for a new charter, which was granted by King Charles II. on 9th February 1677, in favour of Alexander Lord Montgomerie and the heirs-male of his marriage with Lady Margaret Cochrane; whom failing, to his heirs-male by any other marriage; whom failing, to the heirs-male of the body of Alexander Earl of Eglintoun; whom failing, to Mr. Francis Montgomerie, his brother-german, and the sons to be born to him; whom failing, to the sons of the deceased Colonel James Montgomerie of Coilsfield; whom failing, to Major-General Robert Montgomerie and his sons; whom failing, to the Earl's heirs-male whatsoever; reserving to the Earl an annuity of 6000 merks.

Fountainhall, in his Chronological Notes, under date 15th March 1688, records a case in which this eighth Earl of Eglintoun pursues his son, Lord Montgomerie, for a further aliment, on the ground that when his former wife, the Earl of Dumfries's daughter lived, he had 6000 merks out of the estate himself, and his lady 4000, because they lived separately, and it not being provided to whom her part should fall on her death, he alleged it fell in to him. It was answered for the son, that by his contract of marriage he is proprietor, and no more is provided to his father but the 6000 merks, and the estate being under burden, it could bear no more. But so long as Eglinton should live in England, there is 300 merks added to pay the exchange.

The eighth Earl was sworn a Privy Councillor under William and Mary, on their accession to the throne. His lordship made earnest applications to Lord Melville, the Secretary of State, to be appointed to the command of the first regiment. Lord Eglintoun informs the Secretary by letter dated 18th June 1689, that the Convention was pleased to nominate him captain to one of the independent troops which was raised, and he expects that the twelve troops will be divided into two regiments. He reminds the Secretary, that his station in the world gives him right to the command of the

[1] The Montgomery Manuscripts, 8vo. Belfast, printed at the News Letter Office, 1830, pp. 5, 6.

first regiment; and that if his Majesty will grant him the command, he will go with them to any place in Christendom, where he will command him.[1]

In a second letter dated in July 1689, Lord Eglintoun reminds the Secretary of the command of the regiment, and that he was ordered by the Council to march with a party of horse and foot, near 3000, to the Highlands, to engage my Lord Dundee if possible. Lord Eglintoun commanded the horse on this occasion.[2]

Not receiving the appointment, Lord Eglintoun again addressed the Secretary in September, adding his request for permission 'to goe sie my waif, who is verie sike 'in Yorkshier; (if she should daie befor I sie her, it wold be 5 or 6 thousand pound 'out of my waie).'[3]

This earl was thrice married. His first marriage is thus recorded by Lamont — 'In 1658, January, the Lord Montgomery's sone being at London about his father's 'business in Parliament, in reference to his fyne, with consent of his parents, married 'privately the Lord Dumfrice his daughter, a gentlewoman bred in England, but 'having little or no portion.'[4] Robert Baillie also thus notices this marriage among 'sundry unhappy accidents among us' — 'The Earl of Eglintoun's heir, the Master of 'Montgomerie, convoying his father to London, runns away without any advyce, and 'maries a daughter of my Lord Dumfreis, who is a broken man, when he was sure of my 'Lady Balclough's' (Countess of Buccleuch) 'marriage, the greatest match in Brittain. 'This unexpected pranck is worse to all his kinn than his death would have been.'[5] The name of this gentlewoman was Lady Elizabeth Crichtoun. There is a short letter from her ladyship in 1674, which is chiefly remarkable for very bad spelling.[6] The issue of the marriage was three sons and two daughters, viz. —

1. Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun.

2. Hugh. By bond, dated 24th June 1675, Alexander, Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Montgomerie and Killwyneing, provided his second son, Hugh, to the sum of 18,000 merks Scots.[7] Hugh became a major in the army, and died without issue before 1725.

3. John, the third son. Mr. John Montgomerie, brother-german to Alexander Lord Montgomerie, witnessed a discharge by Mary, Anna, and Antonia Montgomerie, 12th February 1686.[8] General Patrick Gordon, in his Diary, says — '14th June 1686: I 'was in the towne [Edinburgh] with diverse noblemen, where the Earle of Eglintoune 'desired me to take his sonne, Mr. John, along with me to Russia.'[9] Mr. John Montgomerie, third son to Alexander Earl of Eglinton, granted a bond to Robert Cleland on

[1] Leven and Melville Papers, p. 61.
[2] Ibid. p. 139.
[3] Ibid. p. 268.
[4] Lamont's Diary. The portion of the lady appears to have been £1500 sterling.
[5] Baillie's Letters, iii. 366.
[6] Vol. i. No. 231.
[7] Original at Eglinton.
[8] Ibid.
[9] Diary of General Patrick Gordon.

18th February 1690.[1] John became a major in the army. He married Dame Jean Gibsone, and died, without issue, before 5th July 1693. She, as his widow, was on the 12th March following confirmed executrix to him by the Commissaries of Edinburgh.[2]

4. Lady Mary married, contract dated 4th October 1683, Sir James Agnew of Lochnaw, Baronet, and had issue.

5. Lady Margaret, who is apparently the 'kind Mag' mentioned in her mother's letter in 1674, above referred to. She granted a discharge to her brother, Lord Montgomerie, for the annualrent of her patrimony, dated 7th January 1682.[3] She died without issue before 15th June 1687.

Elizabeth Crichtoun, Countess of Eglinton, died before 23rd October 1673.

The Earl married, secondly, about 1678, Grace, daughter of Francis Popley of Woolley Moorehouse, Yorkshire, widow of Sir Thomas Wentworth of Bretton, Baronet. Among the letters is one from his lordship in reference to his proposed marriage to this lady,[4] and another letter to the lady herself.[5] In the first of these letters, the Earl shows great anxiety for the marriage, as being of vast advantage to his son and family. On the death of Sir Thomas Wentworth on 5th December 1675, he was succeeded by his brother Sir Mathew, then in Ireland. The family chaplain addressed an invitation in rhyme to him to hasten to England, in which Grace Popley, widow of Sir Thomas, is rather severely alluded to —

Turn out the Madam! the great butter joan!
And let her make her packs, and so begone;
But stop her too, devide her baggs and stuff!
The half is yours, some say 'tis sure enuf!
Let her begone to seek some other joy!
Some sanguine darling, or some active boy!
Will scatter angels, and will bring to light
Her rusty wealth long hid in blackest night:
Presto! great madam now you may be gone,
To dance your jiggs with Mab or Oberon:[6]

Grace Countess of Eglintoun appears to have died within a year after her marriage.[7]

The Earl married, thirdly, at St. Bride's Church, London, on 8th December 1698, Catharine, Lady Kaye, daughter of Sir William St. Quintin of Harpham, in the county of York. Catharine had already been three times married; first, to Michael, eldest son of Sir George Wentworth of Woolley, who predeceased his father in 1658; secondly, to

[1] Original at Eglinton.
[2] Edinburgh Testaments, vol. lxxx.
[3] Original at Eglinton.
[4] Vol. i. No. 232.
[5] Vol. i. No. 234.
[6] Original at Brettonhall.
[7] Eglinton Factory Accounts.

Sir John Kaye of Woodsome, Baronet, who died in 1662; and thirdly, to Henry Sandys of Doune Court, in Kent; and she was of the extraordinary age of ninety when she married her fourth husband, the Earl of Eglintoun. She died on the 6th of August 1700.

The Earl died at London in the end of the year 1701. His body was brought to Kilwinning, and was buried in the family vault there. He was succeeded by his eldest son of the first marriage —

XXI. Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun [1701-1729],

Who, from the time of the death of his grandfather the seventh Earl, in February 1669,

was boarded with Mr. Matthew Fleeming, minister at Culross. During his residence there, Lord Montgomerie appears to have been frequently subject to severe indisposition. Mr. Fleeming's accounts of his expenses contain several entries for payments to the doctor when Lord Montgomerie had the small-pox and other ailments; and also a payment to the chirurgians 'who cured my lord's elbow when it was disjointed,' and for 'severall 'bloodlettings.' The education of Lord Montgomerie was also superintended by Mr. Fleeming, who paid the schoolmaster his fees in dollars; and a necessary item on the attendance at school, was 'a skin to cover my lord's dictionar, and a wallet to cari 'books.' Lord Montgomerie continued to carry his wallet of books to the schoolmaster of Culross till Lammas 1673.[1] Soon after this, Lord Eglintoun arranged that his son should be educated at a university. In a letter dated 23rd October 1673, it is stated, that 'my Lord Chancellor uith the Earlle of Eglintoun and other of his freindes that 'was heir' (Edinburgh), 'considering the present necessetie that my Lord Montgomerie 'is in about his present going to the colledge, it is thought convenient (untill my Lord 'Eglintoun and his freindes meitt to determine all thinges concerning the familie of 'Eglintoun now efter his mother's death), that John Montgomerie of Beoch, present 'Chalmerland, advance and pay to Mr. Robert Gray, pedigoge to my Lord Mont-'gomerie, one thowsand marks Scotts, which will supplie his present neid untill all 'thinges be ended.'[2] St. Andrews was the University chosen for Lord Montgomerie, and he was entered as a student there in 1673, under the designation of 'Alexander 'Mongomery Dominus Mongomery Comitis Eglintoun filius,'[3] and remained there till Lammas 1676. A few months after leaving the University of St. Andrews, Lord

[1] Vol. ii. p. 331, No. 250. [2] Original Letter at Eglinton. [3] Records of University, and Accounts at Eglinton.

Montgomerie married Lady Margaret Cochrane; on which occasion, Lord Eglintoun made over to his son the Eglinton estates. These estates were managed by Lord Montgomerie from the time of his marriage till the death of his father in 1701, with remarkable success. Besides managing his own paternal estates, Lord Montgomerie took a warm interest in public affairs, and held many important offices of State, both before and after his accession to the earldom. He was a member of King William's privy council, and a commissioner of the Treasury. In 1700, he sat and voted in Parliament by royal patent, in place of the Lord High Treasurer. His lordship was also a privy councillor to Queen Anne, and in 1711 was appointed one of the Commissioners of the Chamberlain's Court. He was elected one of the sixteen representative peers of Scotland in 1710, and re-elected in 1713.[1] On the occasion of the rising in favour of the Stewart family in 1715, the Earl was a strenuous supporter of the government and House of Hanover, and rendered good service to the cause, by his activity in raising the regiment of the Ayrshire Fencibles. In that service he met the Earls of Glasgow and Kilmarnock, and others, at Irvine, on 22nd August 1715.[2] And 'upon a short advertise-'ment, there appeared on the common of Irvine, 6000 effective men, well armed and in 'good order, with their proper officers, who all made a handsome appearance, and ex-'pressed a great deal of zeal and loyalty for his Majesty King George, and a firm 'resolution to defend his Majesty's person and government against the Pretender and 'all other enemies whatsoever. The town of Irvine had a company of artillery, besides 'their trained bands, with three pieces of cannon mounted on an eminence, where-'with they saluted the respective nobility, gentry and battalions, as they came up; 'for there were the Earls of Eglintoun, Kilmarnock and Glasgow, the Lords Sempill 'and Boyd, with the haill of the gentry in that jurisdiction, and most of the clergy. 'After they had performed their exercise, they were dismissed for the time'.[3] Nor was his lordship less attentive to his private interests than to his public duties. By his prudent and judicious management, he cleared his paternal estates of the heavy debts with which he had found them encumbered, and added greatly to their extent by the purchase of property now nearly as valuable as the old Eglinton estates. Of the estates so acquired by him, which are generally known as the Dundonald, Kilmaurs,

[1] Wodrow says—'That Lord Eglintoun proposed in a 'meeting of the Scots peers, or else in the House, that as 'we are one in civils, we should be one in Church matters, 'and the Lyturgy and Ceremonys should be brought into 'Scotland; but was laughed at. His lady is ill of a swell-'ing, which they say may prove dangerouse. Some see 'sin written upon this judgment.' [Analecta, i. 318.] Wodrow, in his credulity, was too ready to read judgments.

[2] History of Ayrshire by James Paterson, vol. ii. p. 239.

[3] This zeal for the reigning Sovereign was the more remarkable, that Lockhart of Carnwath states he was to have received 3000 guineas from Lord Eglinton, to assist the Pretender in his projects of restoration. [Lockhart Papers, vol. ii. p. 9.]

Glassford and Southennan estates, the Earl made an entail on 2nd June 1725, which bears to be for the love and favour and great regard he had and bore to Alexander Lord Montgomerie, then his only surviving son, and to the other heirs of entail therein mentioned, and for the better preservation of his lands and estates with the name of Montgomerie. The heirs called to the succession under this entail are the children, male and female, of the Earl himself, also the children, male and female, of James Earl of Galloway and Lady Catherine Montgomerie his countess, eldest daughter of Lord Eglintoun, which failing, to his own nearest heirs and assignees whatsoever.

The Earl executed another entail of the earldom of Eglinton, which he held under the Crown-charter in his favour, dated 9th February 1677, as before quoted. This new entail was dated 30th January 1729, and the limitations are in favour of the Earl himself in liferent, and Alexander Lord Montgomerie, his eldest son; whom failing, to Mr. Archibald Montgomerie his second son, and the heirs-male of their bodies; whom failing, to any other sons to be born to the Earl; whom failing, to Colonel John Montgomerie, only son then living of the deceased Mr. Francis Montgomerie of Giffen; whom failing, to the male descendants of the deceased Colonel James Montgomerie of Coilsfield; whom failing, to the Earl's own heirs and assignees.

After a life of great activity and usefulness, the Earl died suddenly at Eglinton on the 18th of February 1729, as recorded in a letter from Lord Galloway of that date, in which he says that he was beside him when he died. Lord Eglintoun did not speak to any of those around him, nor knew any person, yet with the greatest ease, and without any struggle, he finished his life.[1] He was buried on the 20th of March; and the following incident regarding his funeral is worthy of preservation: 'We hear,' says the Caledonian Mercury of March 31, 1729, 'that at the funeral of the late Right Honourable 'Earl of Eglinton, there were betwixt 900 and 1000 beggars assembled, many of whom 'came over from Ireland, who had £50 of that noble lord's charity distributed to them.'

His lordship was three times married, and had a family of seventeen children. He married first, contract dated 7th and 16th December 1676, Lady Margaret Cochrane, eldest daughter of William Lord Cochrane, and grand-daughter of William, first Earl of Dundonald.[2] Law in his Memorials, page 126, gives the following amusing account of the stoppage of the coach of the Earl of Dundonald on his way to the marriage —

The Earl of Dundonald, with his coatch and himself and his lady, goeing to the marriage of his grandchield to the Lord Montgomery, from Paslay to Eglintoun, An. 1676, in December, was stopt by the way at the said Janet Mathie, her daughter's house, the witch, now a prisoner

[1] Vol. i. No. 245.

[2] The gold ring got by Lord Montgomerie at his marriage cost £23 sterling. [Eglinton Factory Accounts.]

in Paslay upon that account; the horses of the coatch refused to go by that door, and turned their heads homeward; whereupon the gentlemen that rode with the Earle dismounted themselves and yoked their horses in the coatch, but by that door they would not goe. On which occasion the Earle causes yoake his horses again in the coatch, and so dryves homeward with his lady, and all that was with him, to Paslay. A very remarkable passage as has been in our dayes.

The Lord Dundonald had joined with Lord Ross in granting a warrant to apprehend some of the witches, which may account for the supernatural stoppage of his horses at the door of Mathie's daughter.

Of this marriage there were three sons and four daughters—

1. Hugh Master of Montgomerie, baptized on 29th December 1680,[1] and died at the University of Glasgow in 1696, unmarried.

2. Alexander, also died young.

3. John, born 6th and baptized 9th March 1688.[2] He also died young.

4. Lady Catherine, married James, fifth Earl of Galloway, and had issue. She died in December 1757.

5. Lady Elizabeth, born 21st and baptized 24th January 1684. She probably died young, as another daughter was baptized by the same name in 1710.

6. Lady Jean, baptized 3rd December 1689. She also appears to have died young, as another daughter received the same name.

7. Lady Euphemia, married, contract dated 13th April 1697, George Lockhart of Carnwath, author of Memoirs of Scotland. On 10th June 1727, he wrote from Brussels to Lord Eglintoun, that he is infinitely pleased to find his son James so much improved. He's a handsome young man, and behaves so soberly and discreetly, that he is General Colyear's great favourite, and will be sure of the first vacancy in the regiment. George Lockhart died on the 17th December 1735, and Lady Euphemia died on 1st December 1738, leaving a family of seven sons and eight daughters.

8. Lady Grace, married Robert, sixth Earl of Carnwath, at Edinburgh, on 19th January 1710.[3] Their contract of marriage is dated on the same day. By bond dated 11th May 1715, the Earl of Carnwath provided Lady Margaret Dalyel, his 'only 'daughter,' to the lands of Elioch, &c.[4] By a previous disposition, the Earl provided Lady Margaret, his 'only child now on life,' of him and the deceased Grace Countess of Carnwarth, to his jewels, which consisted of 'a gold meddle of King Charles 'the First, anno 1643, a Jacobus, two Carolus's . . . King Charles the First's 'picture in a ring' . . . The Earl of Carnwath having taken part with the Stewarts was attainted in 1715.

[1] Kilwinning Parish Records. [2] Ibid. [3] Ibid. [4] Original at Eglinton.

9. Lady Jean married Sir Alexander Maxwell of Monreith, Baronet, at Eglinton, on 29th December 1711.[1] They had three sons and four daughters. In reference to his eldest son William, born 7th February 1714, Sir Alexander records in his Day Book, still preserved at Monreith — 'N. B. that one Mr. Gordoun, a Highland 'gentleman, both deaf and dumb, signed of my son William, that he would be a very 'great man, and would be of the order of Knights of St. Andrew with a green rib-'band, and that he should attain to very great things, and would be a great scholar.' Lady Jean Maxwell died on 28th May 1726. Her husband records his great loss — He writes, that 'she was but thirty-six years of age past the first of December last. Wee 'was fourteen year and five months married. Never two lived more happily together. 'Never man had soe great a losse of a loving virtuous wife and faithful friend and com-'panion, endowed with the greatest ornaments and qualities of bodie and mind, capable 'of the greatest affairs — the best counsellor I ever had — indefatigable about any 'business she was employed in.'[2] The last paper in the second volume, is a Memorial by Sir Alexander for the gentlemen he named tutors and overseers to his children. He died in 1730.

Lord Eglintoun married, secondly, Lady Anne Gordon, eldest daughter of George, first Earl of Aberdeen, Chancellor of Scotland, and by her, who died before June 1709, he had, of surviving issue, only one daughter —[3]

Lady Mary, born on 20th November 1704, a celebrated beauty, and, as such, the subject of several laudatory poems by William Hamilton of Bangour. She married, before 26th May 1731, Sir David Cunningham of Milncraig and of Livingstone. Her stepmother, Countess Susanna, was much displeased with the conduct of Lady Mary on the occasion of her marriage, and addressed to her a letter, which presents a remarkable contrast to the other letters from that singular lady.[4] Although Lady Mary's marriage to Captain Cunningham was disapproved by her relatives, she was well pleased with him herself. In May 1731, she writes to Lady Milton — 'I wish that every 'body that marrys for riches and grandeur may be as happie as I think I am. I want 'nothing to compleat it, but to be in the good graces of my relations, which I would

[1] Kilwinning Parish Records.

[2] Day Book at Monreith. For copies of entries in this book, the Editor is indebted to the kindness of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Baronet.

[3] It is probably this Lady Eglintoun who is thus referred to by Wodrow in 1709 — 'I have heard it from a 'certain hand, that the late Lady Eglinton parted with 'child of two twins, both males, as was said, upon a 'Sabbath day, when out of fondness, my lord would not 'suffer her to goe to ordinances. And at another time, 'upon another Sabbath, when walking, instead of being 'at ordinances, parted with another. And a very few 'years since, on a Saturday's night, before the communion 'at Kilwinning, at which none of the family was except 'Lady Jean, accidentally some pouder took fire, and 'shoke the house of Eglinton very much, and if it had not 'been for a windou that was providentially open in the 'room where it was, would have made sore work.' Wodrow's Analecta, i. 217-18.

[4] Vol. i. No. 281.

'gladly hope that time may bring about.'[1] Amongst other children, she had a daughter married to the Honourable James Archibald Stuart Wortley, brother of the Marquis of Bute, and a son, Sir William Augustus Cunningham, M.P.

The Earl married, thirdly, in June 1709,[2] Susanna, daughter of Sir Archibald Kennedy of Culzean, and by her had three sons and eight daughters —

1. James Lord Montgomerie. His father thus recorded his birth, baptism and death, in a bible printed at London in 1697, and still in the library at Eglinton — 'This nin-'tien of Apriell 1718: My lord was born at one of the clock in the morning, and his 'name is to bee James, and he was accordingly christened the tuentie secund of May.'

'My dear son James, who was born the nintien of Apr^{ll} 1718, was removed out of 'this vaine and transitorie world (I trust God) to thos mansions of glorie, which he 'hes prepaired for those who love and fear him, upon Wensday the tuentie sixth of 'Agust 1724, a day which I resolve always to keep as a day of humiliation: and I 'pray God I may by his grace be enabled to keep it aright, that he out of his infinit 'mercie may avert foutour judgments my and my predecessors sins so justly deserve. 'My dear child dyed betuixt eight and nine in the forenoon.'

2. Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoun.

3. Archibald, eleventh Earl.

4. Lady Elizabeth, born 4th July 1710. Wodrow notices the birth of this lady. He says—'This moneth, my Lady Eglintoun was brought to bedd of a daughter, which 'my lord took very ill and unchristianly. It's noe wonder God froun for this.'[3] Five or six other daughters were born before the Countess Susanna had a son. If the birth of the first daughter so disappointed his lordship, what must he have thought of such a succession of daughters? A letter is preserved from Lady Elizabeth to Andrew Fletcher in 1738, in which her ladyship declines, in very decided terms, an offer of marriage which had been made to her by Mr. Ogilvie.[4] Eleven years afterwards another lover was more successful in his suit for the hand of the fair Lady Bettie. In 1749, she married Sir John Cunningham of Caprington, one of the greatest scholars and most accomplished gentlemen of the age. He died on the 30th November 1777, in his eighty-second year. Lady Elizabeth, in her widowhood, retired to the village of Troon, where she resided for several years. She died at Edinburgh, 19th February 1800, aged ninety-three. They had two sons — Sir John Cunningham of Caprington, born 19th December 1752, and Alexander Montgomerie Cunningham, born at Eglinton on 2nd and baptized 12th December 1753.[5] He was an officer in the army, and died unmarried.

[1] Letter at Salton.
[2] Kilwinning Parish Records.
[3] Analecta, i. 287.
[4] Vol. i. No. 248.
[5] Kilwinning Parish Records.

5. Lady Helen, born 16th January 1712. She married, 4th January 1745, the Honourable Francis Stuart of Pittendriech, third son of James, eighth Earl of Moray, and died at Edinburgh 14th January 1747, leaving an only son, Francis, who died unmarried.

6. Lady Susanna, the third daughter. In November 1730, she writes to Lord Milton, thanking him for accepting the office of tutor to herself and her sisters. She adds — 'Commonly the care of young orphans is as much shunned by the excuses of 'others, as the same charge has been by your lordship generously accepted of.' She married John Renton of Lambertoun before 1st August 1739, when they entered into a contract, which narrates their previous marriage.[1] She died at Blackadder, 27th July 1754, leaving issue.

7. Lady Margaret married, in April 1739, Sir Alexander Macdonald of Macdonald. This marriage was much approved of by her brother, the tenth Earl, with whom Lady Margaret was a great favourite. The Earl wrote, on hearing of the proposed match, that Sir Alexander was a gentleman of fine character, family and estate, and that he would be proud of having such an ally. She was mother of three distinguished Macdonalds — namely, Sir James, the Marcellus of the Western Isles, Sir Alexander, created Lord Macdonald in the Peerage of Ireland in 1776, and Sir Archibald Macdonald, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer of England. In 1745, Sir Alexander Macdonald asks, in a letter to James Moray his brother-in-law — 'when 'shall our tongues or our pens be let loose? Mine are both frozen. Margaret got rid 'of a daughter this morning, and promises to do well. I love Christian as usual, 'but for Fanny, I love without any return, and consequently not so violently as she 'hates me.'[2] When Flora Macdonald assisted Prince Charles in his escape, after the battle of Culloden, they landed near Mugstot, the seat of Sir Alexander Macdonald, in Skye. Sir Alexander was from home; but Flora, confiding in Lady Margaret Macdonald, communicated to her the hiding-place of the Prince. Her ladyship being much alarmed for his safety, as several officers of the King's troops were in the house, confided the secret to her husband's factor, Macdonald of Kingsburgh, who, with Flora, assisted the Prince in his flight.[3] The fact of Sir Alexander Macdonald having joined the King's party, made it the more difficult and dangerous for her ladyship to render any assistance to the unfortunate Prince.[4] Lady Margaret died on the 30th of March 1799.

[1] Original Contract at Salton.

[2] Original letter at Salton.

[3] History of the Rebellion, 1745. Works of John Home, by Henry Mackenzie, 3 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1822, vol. iii. pp. 235, 236.

[4] In a list of prisoners delivered to Commodore Smith, by Major-General Campbell, after the battle of Culloden, the last named is — '26. Miss Flora M'Donald of Milton, 'made prisoner for having carryed off the Pretender's son 'as her servant, in woman apparel. Her Declaration was 'sent to his Royal Highness the Duke. But she further 'says, that her father-in-law, Hugh M'Donald of Armadael, an officer in the Sky militia, gave her a pass to pro- 'tect her and her pretended servant from the King's troops,

8. Lady Frances died unmarried after 26th January 1755, on which date she writes to Lord Milton, complaining of her brother, Lord Eglintoun, not paying her money.

9. Lady Christian, the sixth daughter, married James Moray of Abercairny in February 1737. A preliminary contract of marriage between them is dated the 16th of that month, and a formal contract was entered into between them, which is dated 29th June and 1st September 1738.[1] They had three sons, James, Alexander and Charles, successively of Abercairny. She died at Abercairny, 19th July 1748.

10. Lady Grace, the seventh daughter, when writing to Lord Milton, her guardian, calls him 'Dear Father,' and subscribes herself, 'your most affectionate daughter.' She married, on 12th March 1751,[2] against the wishes of her family, Charles Byne, a cornet in Bland's Dragoons, and subsequently to her marriage, lived estranged from her relatives. The marriage was an unhappy one. She died at Edinburgh on 15th June 1751,[3] and was interred in the Greyfriars' Churchyard there. George Lockhart of Carnwath, nephew of Lady Grace, wrote, on 31st July 1751, to the agent for her executors, that 'Mr. Byne is more miserable than when he left us. He wishes to 'obtain Lady Grace's small effects, which he would wear and cherish in every way 'possible. He begs they may all be valued, and will pay any price they shall ask 'for them.' On 24th June 1751, Lord Eglintoun, with his usual generosity, wrote to his agent, acknowledging the intimation of the death of 'that unfortunate girl, Lady 'Grace. Pray let Mr. Byne have no further trouble about her; but pay all her little 'debts as soon as possible.'[4]

11. Lady Charlotte, who died of fever at Hamilton on 7th October 1732, unmarried.[5]

This last family of the Earl's was in many respects a remarkable one. Their mother, Countess Susanna, was the daughter of Sir Archibald Kennedy of Culzean by Elizabeth, daughter of David Leslie, first Lord Newark. Susanna was thus aunt to Thomas and David, the ninth and tenth Earls of Cassilis. She was acknowledged to be the most beautiful woman of her time; of unusually tall stature, yet perfect both as to figure and carriage, and with a face of exquisite beauty. To the charms of her personal appearance were added the more powerful attractions of genius and great accomplishments. Possessing these attractions, in the elevated position which she occu-

'and that he wrote a letter to his lady, recommending his 'daughter-in-law's pretended servant to her favour and 'protection. This person was sent after, but made his 'escape.' [Original List at Salton]. Charles, it is known, became his female disguise somewhat awkwardly. His step was too long for the petticoat; and it was remarked of Flora's supposed female servant, that she was a lang leggit lass.

[1] Originals at Salton and Eglinton.
[2] Scots Magazine, vol. xiii. 163.
[3] Ibid. 310.
[4] Original Letters at Eglinton.
[5] Vol. i. Nos. 291, 292.

pied in society during so lengthened a lifetime, it is not surprising that many interesting particulars concerning her have been preserved and handed down to us. She was never without admirers, and both their number and importance were greatly increased on her introduction to Edinburgh society, about the time of the Union between Scotland and England. Miss Kennedy had long been considered by her friends and attendants as destined to marry the Earl of Eglintoun. The chief ground on which this opinion rested, was the circumstance of a hawk, with Lord Eglintoun's name upon its bells, having alighted on her shoulder one day whilst she was walking in her father's garden at Culzean. But at the time that Miss Kennedy's friends and servants thus saw fit to interpret this omen, there were certainly many obstacles in the way of the fulfilment of their prediction. The disparity of the ages of the parties was considerable; and more serious still, the Earl was a married man, and his countess, Anne, though sickly, had apparently no intention of dying to accommodate her husband or Miss Kennedy. But the nursery prediction was to be fulfilled. Anne Countess of Eglintoun died, and left her husband a free man. It was then that the Earl of Eglintoun declared himself amongst the number of Miss Kennedy's admirers, and from his numerous rivals carried off the prize.[1]

Countess Susanna was a great patroness of literary men. This feature of her character is the more to be admired, from the fact, that in her time, and even long after, many of the nobility treated the votaries of literature rather like mechanics than men of genius, learning and accomplishment. Boyse dedicates a volume of poems to her. Allan Ramsay dedicates to her 'The Gentle Shepherd,' and in doing so enlarges in glowing terms on the virtues of his patroness. He says —

I am sure of vast numbers that will crowd into your ladyship's opinion, and think it their honour to agree in their sentiments with the Countess of Eglintoun, whose penetration, superior wit, and sound judgment, shine with an uncommon lustre, while accompanied with the diviner charms of goodness and equality of mind.

If it were not for offending only your ladyship here, madam, I might give the fullest liberty to my muse to delineate the finest of women, by drawing your ladyship's character, and be in no hazard of being deemed a flatterer, since flattery lies not in paying what is due to merit, but in praises misplaced.

Were I to begin with your ladyship's honourable birth and alliance, the field is ample, and presents us with numberless great and good patriots, that have dignified the names of Kennedy and Montgomery: be that the care of the herald and historian. It is personal merit, and the heavenly sweetness of the fair that inspire the tuneful lays. Here every Lesbia must be excepted,

[1] Chambers' Traditions of Edinburgh, i. 262.

whose tongues give liberty to the slaves which their eyes had made captives; such may be flattered; but your ladyship justly claims our admiration and profoundest respect; for whilst you are possessed of every outward charm in the most perfect degree, the never-fading beauties of wisdom and piety, which adorn your ladyship's mind, command devotion.

William Hamilton of Bangour, who was an elegant poet and accomplished man, commended the Gentle Shepherd in an address to the Countess, in which he eulogises both her and her daughters. After referring to evil passions indulged in by many, the poet draws the contrast—

Unlike, O Eglintoun! thy happy breast,
Calm and serene enjoys the heavenly guest;
From the tumultuous rule of passions freed,
Pure in thy thought, and spotless in thy deed:
In virtues rich, in goodness unconfin'd,
Thou shin'st a fair example to thy kind;
Sincere and equal to thy neighbour's name,
How swift to praise! how guiltless to defame!
Bold in thy presence bashfulness appears,
And backward merit loses all its fears.
Supremely blest by Heav'n, Heav'n's richest grace
Confest is thine, an early blooming race;
Whose pleasing smiles shall guardian wisdom arm,
Divine Instruction! taught of thee to charm;
What transports shall they to thy soul impart
(The conscious transports of a parent's heart),
When thou behold'st them of each grace possest,
And sighing youths imploring to be blest:
After thy image form'd, with charms like thine,
Or in the visit, or the dance to shine!
Thrice happy who succeed their mother's praise,
The lovely Eglintounes of other days.

On the death of the Earl in 1729, Susanna devoted herself to the education of a numerous and interesting family. She was then about forty years of age, and in spite of some little eccentricities of character, showed herself fully equal to the task which she had undertaken. Her character is well illustrated by her letters to Lord Milton, a number of which are given in the following collection. Lord Milton was guardian

of Susanna's family for many years, and took a warm and fatherly interest in the noble family committed to his charge; her ladyship's letters to him are replete with gratitude to his lordship and affection towards her children. During the continued and apparently hopeless illness of her daughter Eleanora, she writes to his lordship: 'Cou'd 'I say any thing to excuse the trouble of reading my letters I wou'd writte verie often, 'but my own thoughts are so perplexed at present that there tiresome to myself. My 'daughter's conteenou'd illness give me sencible pain. It is a hard task, my lord, to 'submit to fatal necessity, when the softest affections of the heart oppose themselves too 'it; indead she diservs verie well, but she will bee much better. It is I am to be pittied. 'Hope, what art thou but a delusive dream: a toy given us by nature to steal from 'us our present moments? Forgive my complaining, it's natural, and the privaledge 'off frindshipe.'[1] A few weeks after, on the 11th of October 1729, she writes his lordship on the same painful subject, stating the opinions of Drs. Clerk and Cockburn that Eleanora should be taken to Bath.[2] Lord Milton, however, did not quite approve of the step, and Susanna was guided by his advice. 'Since,' she writes 19th November, 'you don't plainlie approve of caring my daughter to the Bath, I take it as granted 'I had best delay doing of it till the Spring; the season is indeed far advanced, and 'she verie wake, tho' better then is commonlie believed.'[3] Before this advice of his lordship's reached her, however, Susanna had written no less than four times to him, and her third unanswered letter has this characteristic postscript attached. 'This is 'my third lettr without anie ansuer —

'There is no hate like love to hatred turn'd,
'Nor annie furie like a woman scorn'd.'[4]

Eleanora's health did not improve during the winter, and in spring the family troubles were increased by the illness of Susan and Charlotte also. Amidst these anxieties, her ladyship was at the same time watching over the education of her eldest son with the utmost solicitude. Speaking of Lord Isla, she says — 'I should be proud of deserving 'his lordship's approbation in anie thing, but in particular the education off my son. 'Mr. Scott, whom I made choise of, is here, and so far as I can judge, will be a verie 'proper instructor, having both larning, good nature and good breading.'[5] Mr. Scott's esteemed services, however, were soon lost, and a near relative, Mr. Agnew, a half-pay lieutenant, was employed to teach the young Earl Latin and French.[6] In

[1] Vol. i. No. 266.
[2] Vol. i. No. 267.
[3] Vol. i. No. 271.
[4] Vol. i. No. 269.
[5] Vol. i. No. 266.
[6] Vol. i. No. 272.

the summer or autumn of 1730, her ladyship proceeded to Bath. Ellie, however, did not reap the benefit anticipated from the waters, and their stay was short. 'Pegie,' who was with them, 'made great progress in her music, and was much admired 'for her voice.'[1] On their return to London, in the end of November or beginning of December, her ladyship asked Lord Milton to send her a bill for £200, per letter addressed to Lord Isla, and if he pleased, to 'recommend herself as a verie 'tolirable piece of antiquatie.'[2] Her ladyship was very graciously received at Court, and her reception by the Earl of Isla seems to have been far too favourable for the views and taste of her worthy and honoured friend and adviser, the Lord Justice-Clerk. With regard to this matter, she says — 'I had the pleasure of yours from the 'hands of Earle Isla, after drinking tea with him in his library. You'l perhaps thinke 'it odd that I shou'd talke of annie pleasure after ane so elivate. I look'd upon him 'in that situation as a cunjurar, and wou'd be glade to have the futoure parte of my 'life determined by his lordship. . . . In the first part of your letter you seem 'to be angry. I am sensiblie affected with your displeasure, and if a criminall, begs 'forgiveness, and to be reconsil'd upon your oun tarms.

'Whey do you hint a possibility of a change in my life befor I see you? I'm sorie 'you thinke in that uay of me. No, my lord, my passions hes not that pouer over me, 'as to make me forfet your good opinion, which must be the consiquence, and such a 'an as no temtation hes the pouer of drauing me into. I knou the vallou of your 'frindshipe; I know too my debet of obligation; the first I'll preserve with all the assi-'duatie I'm capable of, the last I'll return with unlimited gratitude. Cou'd I offer mor, 'my heart is capable of it.'[3] In a subsequent letter she asked Lord Milton to offer her compliments of duty to their Majesties George the Second and his Queen. They never neglected an opportunity of inquiring after the welfare of her ladyship.[4] Ellie's health was much improved by the time they reached London; and Pegie was left there to finish her education.[5] Her ladyship returned by Edinburgh, and thence proceeded to Eglinton, where she conducted her affairs as before, Lord Milton being her constant correspondent and adviser. In September 1732, she was suddenly called to Hamilton, in consequence of the fatal illness of her little daughter Charlotte; and on the 9th October following, she wrote thence to Lord Milton, intimating her death.[6]

During her residence at Auchans she lived in great state, and always maintained a dignified reserve even in her own family. Her children were taught to address her

[1] Vol. i. No. 276.
[2] Vol. i. No. 276.
[3] Vol. i. No. 279.
[4] Vol. i. No. 288.
[5] Vol. i. No. 279.
[6] Vol. i. Nos. 291, 292.

as 'your ladyship,' and without any want of affection, she observed the same politeness with regard to them. Though Alexander, her eldest son, was a mere boy when he succeeded to the titles and estates, she thenceforward addressed him as Lord Eglintoun, and commanded all the family and domestics to do the same. Every day, his lordship formally led his mother to the dinner table. The entertainments which she gave on special occasions, both for the dignity of the guests and the magnificence of the service, were seldom or never equalled in any private mansion of those days.[1]

Her eldest son was an especial favourite with her ladyship. In his youth, she said that she preserved the goodness of his nature by keeping his mind pure and untainted, and giving him just ideas of moral life.[2] She is said never to have refused him a request but one. On the accession of George III. to the throne, the Earl was appointed one of the lords of the bedchamber. Proud of his mother, and anxious to show off her noble figure, he wished her to walk in the procession at his Majesty's coronation. But she excused herself, by saying that she was too old a woman to pay for her robes. His melancholy death wellnigh overwhelmed her. Indeed, she never entirely recovered from the shock which she received from the sight of her son brought home mortally wounded.

Lady Eglintoun's tastes were always peculiar, and continued so to the last. Not the least peculiar of her fancies was that of taming and making pets of rats, which abounded in the rambling old mansion at Auchans.[3] In her efforts to tame them her ladyship was so far successful as to have a great number of them obedient to her command. At stated hours, she tapped on a certain panel of her oaken door, and a dozen or more of these visitors instantly made their appearance. Having satisfied themselves from the contents of a trough placed in the corner of the room for their special accommodation, the favoured but odious creatures, at the signal of her ladyship, again disappeared with equal alacrity.[4] Her ladyship affected to find the origin of her favour for these ugly creatures in the ingratitude of those of her own species whom she had patronised and benefited. She sometimes pretended to complain of never meeting with gratitude except from four-footed protegés.

[1] Caldwell Papers, Part II. vol. i. pp. 7, 8.
[2] Vol. i. No. 288.
[3] Caldwell Papers, Part II. vol. ii. p. 55.
[4] Chambers' Traditions and Caldwell Papers, *ut supra*.

In her old age, Lady Eglinton entertained Doctor Johnson, on his return from the Hebrides. The Doctor was received most graciously by the stately old countess, and afterwards spoke with great satisfaction of his visit to Auchans. He was accompanied by Boswell, who gives the following account of the interview. He says — 'Lady Eglin-'toune, though she was now in her eighty-fifth year, and had lived in the country 'almost half a century, was still a very agreeable woman. She was of the noble house 'of Kennedy, and had all the elevation which a consciousness of such birth inspires. 'Her figure was majestic, her manner high bred, her reading extensive, and her con-'versation elegant. She had been the admiration of the gay circles of life, and the 'patroness of poets. Dr. Johnson was delighted with his reception here. Her prin-'ciples in church and state were congenial with his. In the course of conversation 'it came out that Lady Eglintoune was married the year before Dr. Johnson was 'born; upon which she graciously said to him, that she might have been his mother, 'and she now adopted him.' Her ladyship was so pleased with the Doctor, that, at parting, she embraced him — a mark of respect and affection which made a deep and lasting impression upon the mind of the great man.

Her ladyship died at Auchans House on 18th March 1780, in the ninety-first year of her age, and the fifty-first of her widowhood.[1] She preserved her stateliness of mien and symmetry of figure, and even the brilliancy of her complexion, to the last.[2] These features in some measure descended to her daughters, and the phrase, 'the Eglintoune 'aire,' came into use in Edinburgh to signify all that was stately, noble and dignified.

The following petition, presented to Lord Milton in 1735, shows the terms of affectionate intimacy on which these ladies stood with their good guardian — a curious production for six ladies, unmarried and young; the style of the composition is very similar to that of the letters of their mother —

The Petition of the Six Vestal Virgins of Eglintoun to the Honourable Lord Milton.

Humbly sheweth — That whereas your petitioners has taken upon them to solicite in behalf of Alexander Aickenhead, part of whoes storie your Lordship knows already. His new misfortune is, that after he had received sentence of banishment for three years out of this regality, he was unhappily seduced by his principal creditors to come privetly to his own house to compound some debts, but was not an hour there before the malitious neighbourhood inform'd against him, and had him unexpectedly aprehended and carried to Irvine gaol; so we being importun'd by his wife (who is extremely handsom), joyn'd with our own inclinations to serve the poor man, we're in hopes that these two motives will have some assendent

[1] Scots Magazine, vol. 42, p. 167. [2] Traditions of Edinburgh, i. 270.

over your lordship's natural disposition to relieve the distress'd; and to excite you still further to this good action, his wife, as the only acceptable reward she thinks she can make for this peice of humanity, she hopes from your lordship in favours of her husband's liberty, she protests you shall have as many kisses as you please to demand.

And we likeways bind and oblige our selves to do the same, when your lordship makes your publick entrie here in May; but we once more beg you'll use your interest to get the man out of prison, which you'll do a particular good to his family, and an infinite obligation to all your pupals, whos ambition's to subscribe them selves,

Your lordship's most affectionat children,

BETTIE MONTGOMERIE.
ELEONORA MONTGOMERIE.
SUSANNA MONTGOMERIE.
MARGT MONTGOMERIE.
FRANCES MONTGOMERIE.
CHRISTIAN MONTGOMERIE.

P.S. — We'll esteem it a favour if your lordship will honour us with an answer. But for heaven's sake remember that the wife is hansom.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his lodgings, Edinburgh.[1]

XXII. 1. ALEXANDER, TENTH EARL OF EGLINTOUN [1729–1769],

SUCCEEDED his father on the 18th of February 1729, being then only six years old. His father thus records his birth and baptism in the family bible — 'My secund son 'was born Sunday the tenth of Februar 1723, betuixt eight and nine at night, and was 'christened the tuenty-eight of the said month, and was named Alexander.'

Shortly before his death, the ninth Earl addressed the following anxious letter of advice to his son —

My dearest child — I find such decays, both in body and spirits, that I am sensible I cannot live long, therefore so long as my judgement is intire, I think my self bound, both by the tyes of nature and affection to leave yow my best and last aduices for your future conduct, since your tender age will not allow yow to retain them, should I recommend them to yow by word of mouth.

And as there is nothing in this world I leave gives me so much anxiety as yow, so the thoughts of leaving yow young, and that I shall thereby be deprived of the oportunitys of informing yow, according to the best of my weak understanding, what is fitt, and by my aduice and influence restraining when your youth may hurry yow to what is wrong.

[1] Original petition at Salton. When at toilet, Countess Susanna once asked her daughter, Lady Bettie, what she would give to be as pretty as her? To which Lady Bettie replied to her mother, Not half so much as you would give to be as young as I am.

The best advice, my dearest child, I can give — and I pray God may give yow his grace to follow it — is, that yow remember your Creator in the days of your youth, and that yow early acquaint your self with asking direction from him; and, in order to obtain his favour, read the Scriptures carefully, and observe and follow what is there commanded, and abstain from what is for bidden, for in them yow will find your duty to God, your nighbour, and your self, distinctly set down. And let me earnestly recommend my chiefest care, that yow ever keep in remembrance your mortality, and that as yow shall employ the short time you are to have in this world, so yow shall be either happy or miserable to all eternity. Let me therfore intreat yow, with all the earnestness of a most affectionat father, that yow would never put the pleasures of a vain transitory world in ballance with the eternall joys that God has prepared for all those that love, fear, and keep his commandments.

Next to God, I recommend your duty to your mother. Be sure to honour and respect her, and pay her the obedience due to a parent.

As for your sisters, they being much older, it's probable they may be married before yow come to age; and as it is your duty, so it will be your interest, to shew them and their husbands all the kindness and civilities yow possibly can.

Your brothers, whether one or more, I recommend them to your particular care; therefore, be to them as a father. Love and protect them. Look upon them and every thing concerns them as your own; for the more united yow and they are, and all your other relations, the stronger will be your interest.

Your estate I leave to yow in a much better condition as when I succeeded to it. I pray God may bless it to yow, for 'tis his blessing can only make yow and it prosper.

The lands I have purchased, and the provisions I am obliged to give my younger children, have been the occasion of my leaving yow in debt. However, if your estate be tollerably managed, I expect yow may be free long before yow be of age. But how does my heart tremble for yow, when I consider your youth, and what a crowd of flatterers will surround yow, who will be apt to insinuat, that yow are possessed of a considerable estate, and it becomes yow to live suitably to it. I shall ever wish yow to live according to your quality; but remember, we are but stewards of the good things of this life God is pleased to bestow upon us, and that he will require an account how we have employed the honours and riches he has given us; for we receive not these to gratify our lusts or ambition, but to give us greater oportunity of being serviceable to him, our country, and our freinds.

I earnestly entreat, that when yow come to the age of a man, yow would chuse the best company; and that yow would avoid the company of gamesters; for, had yow an estate thrice as great as I leave yow, it may soon be lost, and yow brought consequently under great difficulties. Besides, the gentlemen goe under that denomination are looked upon as cheats, and the worst of men, and therefor are not fitt company for yow. I also desire yow may not keep running horses, for that necessarily leads yow to converse with jockies and grooms — the first openly

profess cheatrie, and the other fitt only for your servants, and neither proper for your companions.

Yow will perhaps remember, my dearest child, that I endeavoured to inform yow of the great advantage learning would be to yow. Surely nothing distinguishes so much a man of quality from the vulgar as knowledge, and nothing makes one so knowing as learning; therefore I earnestly recommend to yow, not to mis-spend your younger years in idleness, but carefully employ them in learning Latine and French. It would be of unspeakable advantage to yow, would yow when yow come to more years, employ some part of your time in the study of the Civill and the Scots Law.

Yow come to live in a time, my cheifest care, when the right to these kingdoms comes to be a question betwixt the House of Hanover, who are in possession, and the descendants of King James. Yow are, in my poor opinion, not to intermedle with either, but live abstractly at home, manageing your affairs to the best advantage, and living in a good understanding with your freinds and nighbours; for, since we are under the misery and slavery of being united to England, a Scotsman, without prostituting his honour, can obtain nothing by following a Court, but bring his estate under debt, and consequently himself to necessity.

It will perhaps be proposed to yow to make an English marriage, as that which will bring yow much money. But if English ladies bring what is considerable with them, they will soon spend it, and some of yours; for their education and way of living differs altogether from ours; therefore make choise of a Scots lady, of an discreet and honourable family, who will apparently be satisfyed to live as your wife, and in the end yow will be richer with her than with one with an Englis portion.

What is above recommended is done with all the tender concern and affectioun I am capable. That God may govern and direct yow, and that he may take yow under his speciall protection, are my most earnest wishes and constant prayers.

I desire this letter may be kept carefully by those who are about yow, until yow come to twelve or fourteen years of age; and that yow may peruse it once every week after yow come to that age; for, untill yow come to some understanding, my design will be entirely lost. I pray God may give yow understanding in all things.

I am, my dearest child, your most affectionat father,

EGLINTOUN.[1]

The first place of education to which the Earl and his brother Archibald were sent, was the Grammar School at Irvine, where they remained until May 1737, when they were removed to Haddington. On leaving the latter place in October 1738, the Earl wrote thus to Lord Milton[2] concerning the family with whom he had resided there—

[1] From a copy at Abercairny, which is indorsed as having been made from the original in the Earl's own hand in July 1747, which was the first time his son, to whom it is addressed, had seen it.

[2] One of the Earl's guardians was the excellent Andrew Fletcher, Lord Milton. That he took a lively interest in the education of Lord Eglinton appears from his correspondence preserved at Salton.

'I was extremely well used by Mrs. Walker and family; and as I know that they were 'at a very considerable charge in entertaining company that came to see me, and had 'no allowance made them for it, I think it proper that some handsome compliment 'should be made them for it.'[1] On 4th October 1738, as we learn from the family accounts, the Earl and his brother both set out for England — the Earl to prosecute his studies at Winchester, Archibald at Eton. The latter remained at Eton till 1741, when he joined his brother at Winchester.[2] The progress of Alexander was creditable, but that of Archibald was indifferent. The former is described as applying himself well to the general business of the school, though giving little promise of becoming 'a great Latin scholar.' The latter, we are told, made no progress in his learning, though it was feared he was advancing sufficiently in the knowledge of several other things he had better have been ignorant of.[3] After being two years at Winchester, Lord Eglintoun wrote to Lord Milton a warm panegyric on the great advantages of a liberal education. This was in August 1740, when the Earl was in his seventeenth year. Two months later, he writes of his anxiety to leave school. He says — 'I have now served a very long apprenticeship to literature, and am very desi- 'rous to enter jurnyman. If I had no other reason, this one would be sufficient to 'make me fond to leave school, that I am so tall I am quite ashamed to be seen at 'one.'[4] His lordship's governor also writes at the same time to Lord Milton, that Lord Eglinton is determined to leave school, and that considering his lordship's 'years 'and his size,' the University seems the more proper place for him. In November 1742, the Earl, with his governor Michael Ramsay, proceeded to Paris, where he immediately entered on the exercises of dancing, riding and fencing, under the most approved masters of Europe, and his proficiency in these accomplishments soon equalled his superior privileges and opportunities.[5] 'I may venture to say,' writes Mr. Ramsay, 'with regard to these accomplishments, his lordship has profited as much for the time 'as any young gentleman whatever, and more than any ever I knew.'[6] These advantages were not to be had without considerable expense, and both Mr. Ramsay and Lord Milton, the Earl's guardian, seem to have been considerably annoyed at the amount of the Earl's outlay. Mr. Ramsay complains particularly of the Earl's passion for 'antiques.' He says — 'There is another article of expense which your lordship

[1] Original letter at Salton.

[2] Before leaving Scotland in 1738, the Earl, then in his fifteenth year, succeeded in gaining the prize at the shooting at Irvine, on which occasion he distributed among the 'drinking officers, drummers, and musick, and for powder 'and ball' — £8, 14s. 6d. He also paid an annual 'complement of two guineas to the trades of Kilwinning, upon 'his birth day.' [Factory Accounts.]

[3] Vol. i. No. 252.

[4] Vol. i. Nos. 253, 254.

[5] Vol. i. No. 255.

[6] Ibid.

'will not so easily excuse; for my part, it gives me a good deal of pain — I mean 'the article of antiques, and, what his lordship calls, curiositys. This has cost him 'already about £100, and God knows how far it may go. Though I would willingly 'flatter myself that his lordship's good sense may get the better (begging his pardon 'for the expression) of this idle, unnecessary and endless expense.' In a subsequent letter from Mr. Ramsay, dated London, March 14, 1747, he writes, 'The Earl is an 'essentially good and a right man, and every honest man concerned about him will 'have credit of him. This I prophesie; but I prophesie likewise that he must have 'his swing out; and I hope, as well as wish, it may be soon out. He is here in his 'highest enjoyment.'[1] His lordship, so far from seeing any thing like extravagance in his expenditure, appears to have been astonished at his own moderation; and his views on the matter are graphically set forth in a humorous letter to Lord Milton, of date 19th March 1753.[2] He there freely acknowledges that he has lived beyond his income, but at the same time repudiates the charge of extravagance, offering his lordship proof that he has not for the last twelve months spent £1800. And as Lord Milton had refused to lend him money in the way he had suggested, the Earl proposes to replenish his purse by writing a book on the benefits of starvation, for which work he considers himself specially qualified, as being 'starved into a moral 'philosopher, and now turned author.' The projected work was to show the benefits arising from starving to mankind in general, as well as to individuals, by preserving ancient families, producing many great poets, philosophers and artists. The book was to be published by subscription; subscribers' names to be received by Lord Milton; and if his list was not complete by the first of June, when the author's tailor's bill became due, the work was to be sold to Edmond Curle. In another and more serious letter, he shows his regard for Lord Milton, saying — 'I hope your lordship will do 'me the justice to believe, that there is no one on earth more sensible of the many 'obligations we all ly under to you, and this even although you will not lend me 'money without security, or at least a probability of my growing more douse, as you 'grave people call it.'[3] The following account of an absurd race, and the amount of the money staked upon it, seems to give some colour to Lord Milton's charge of extravagance. The story is told by Sir Gilbert Eliot of Minto, in a letter to Baron Mure, 5th February 1748 — 'We had yesterday a race,' says he, 'between Lord Eglinton

[1] Mr. Ramsay acted as governor to the Earl for several years, and appears to have given great satisfaction; for in a letter to the family agent, dated June 19, 1750, Mr. Ramsay writes — 'Before I conclude, I must tell you one piece 'of news with respect to myself. Upon my return from 'a very agreeable excursion of five or six weeks into Wales 'with my Lord Talbot, my Lord Eglintoune made me 'a present in the kindest and most obliging manner, of a 'bond of annuity of £100, unasked and unapplied for, 'either by myself or any friend on earth that I know of.' [Original letter at Eglinton.]

[2] Vol. i. No. 256.

[3] Vol. i. No. 257.

'and Mr. Charters. They rid themselves; Mr. Charters rid Lady Katy's pad, which 'had cost a good deal of money, and Lord Eglinton his stable drudge, worth about 'fifty shillings. They did not gallop, but only pace. This you may imagine was a 'very sory race. However Charters, who lost it, I believe does not think so, for it 'cost him five hundred pounds sterling, and a ball to the company besides.'[1] His lordship may have been somewhat extravagant; but, at the same time, he was a young nobleman at once honourable and upright, generous, affectionate and warm-hearted. That this was his real character appeared on the occasion of the marriage of his favourite sister, Lady Margaret,[2] who had written to her brother on the subject, and referred him to Lord Milton's letter as to Sir Alexander M'Donald's character and the suitableness of the match. The Earl not only wrote to her in the most affectionate manner, highly approving of her choice, but also wrote to Lord Milton to get his and Lady Eglintoun's consent to his granting Lady Margaret a discharge of some money that she owed him, and to her being supplied with a suitable *trousseau*. The same good sense and kindly feeling are manifested towards his brother Archibald, in a letter to Lord Milton of 1st August 1753, and in another to his brother on the eve of an anticipated duel.[3] As an illustration of his general humanity and benevolence, the following letter from his lordship to Baron Mure of Caldwell, concerning the punishment of some officers, is given —

Dear Baron[4] — I received yours this morning, and take the first opportunity to thank you for the trouble you have been at.

I should be as far from protecting a knave or a fool as any man, and I have an aversion at jobs; but I really believe in my conscience, that some of these poor people (I mean the officers who have been broke) are wronged most egregiously. The Commissioners have, without distinction, punished the innocent with the guilty, which is not the way to have the King well served. Upon the strictest inquiry I will venture to affirm, that Allison, Borland, and Achairn, never have been concerned, either directly or indirectly, in any such thing as a composition with the smugglers; and if ever it is inquired into, it will be found that Allison not only protested against all compositions, but even seized the part which the compounders intended for themselves, and brought it fairly into the Custom House. As to Achairn, at the time when it was alleged he was guilty of this composition, so far from that, he was almost beat to death because he would not compound, and was carryed off the field of battle for dead.

Achairn's estate is to be sold; Borland nor Allison have no votes; so that I only speak from humanity and justice. I shall pay my respects to Mrs. Mure soon, and ever am, dear Willy, yours sincerely, EGLINTOUN.

[1] Caldwell Papers, Part Second, vol. i. p. 85.
[2] Vol. i. Nos. 249 and 250.
[3] Vol. i. No. 257, and No. 262.
[4] Caldwell Papers, Part Second, vol. i. p. 265. No. cxxxiv. [*Circa* 1764.]

The Earl was appointed Governor of Dumbarton Castle in 1759, and on the accession of George III. in the year following, he was made one of the lords of the bedchamber to his Majesty, which office he held for seven years. It was in a great measure owing to his prudent and patriotic exertions that the optional clause of the Scottish Bank Act, which, to the great grievance of the holders, enabled the banks to delay payment of their notes for six months after demand, was abolished shortly before his election as one of the representative peers. In this and other matters, his lordship, finding himself possessed of great aptitude for public business, and thinking that his position as a peer was less important than it would be if he were a commoner, with a seat in the House of Commons, entertained the idea of dispeering himself, in order that he might be elected a Member of Parliament. He even went so far as to drop, on certain occasions, the style of Earl of Eglintoun, and to have his calling cards printed with the simple name of Mr. Alexander Montgomerie. He took the advice of eminent counsel as to the steps to be adopted to get quit of his peerage;[1] but their opinions being unfavourable to his project, he abandoned it, and made the best use of the opportunities afforded to him, in his place in the House of Lords, to which he was sent as one of the representative Scotch peers, at the general election in 1761 and again in 1768.

His lordship paid great attention to local matters and to his own private interests, as well as to his official and more public duties. Under the act for abolishing heritable jurisdictions, passed in 1748, the Earl received for the sheriffship of Renfrewshire £5000, for the regality of Cuninghame £2000, and for the bailliary of Kilwinning £800, or £7800 in all, as full payment of his claims of compensation, given in at £12,000. He spent much time and money in the improvement of his own estates,

[1] One of his objections to his own title, was, that the patent was lost. But the opinion of Mr James Ferguson, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, afterwards Lord Pitfour, dated 31st July 1760, showed that this objection was not well founded. As the opinion bears very directly upon this point, and upon some other important points of peerage law, it is here quoted—'I am of opinion, that the 'Earl's title to the peerage is unquestionable. That the 'dignity of many noble families in Scotland, and I believe 'in most other countries, depends upon the immemorial 'possession and acknowledgment of the Sovereign and 'the nation for a course of ages. The more ancient they 'are, there is the greater hazard that the evidence of the 'original creation may be lost. After peerages by tenure 'went into disuse, they were created in Scotland by Cinc-'ture in Parliament, and in England by writt. During 'this middle period, before patents were introduced, the re-'cords of Parliament were the sole evidence of the creation, 'which might frequently happen to be lost or destroyed. 'But it would be absurd to suppose, that because of such 'accident, a number of peers should be deprived of the 'dignity they had enjoyed for a tract of ages, and which 'had been universally acknowledged to belong to them 'both by the Sovereign and by the people.

'And as many of the nobility may be deprived of the 'documents of their creation in these ancient periods, so in 'latter times, since patents were in use, there are also in-'stances of defects and wants in the records. But where 'a family has been possess'd of a peerage without any chal-'lenge or interruption for a century and upwards, the pre-'sumption lies, that it has been properly constituted accord-'ing to the form established in law at the time. So it is 'laid down by our own lawyers, particularly Sir Thomas 'Craig, as well as by the lawyers of other countries; and 'if this presumption were to be overturned, it would ex-'pose subjects to be stript of their dignities by accidents, 'when it is universally acknowledged by the nation, that 'they are well entitled to them, and therefore I have no 'doubt that this dignity will be found to subsist in the 'noble family which has so long possessed it.'

and by his advice and spirited example, contributed much to the improvement of agriculture throughout the county of Ayr, which at the time of his succession to the earldom, presented one continued scene of wildest confusion and the grossest mismanagement.[1] There were hardly any practicable roads in the county. There were few ditches and fences on the farms; the former were ill constructed, and the latter worse preserved. The land, in general, was overrun with weeds and rushes, and the little soil that was kept clean enough for produce was collected on the top of a high ridge, whilst the furrow was drowned with water. 'The farm houses were mere hovels, having an open 'hearth or fire-place in the middle, the dunghill at the door, the cattle starving, and 'the people wretched.'[2] When the Earl commenced his improvements, his own estates were in much the same condition as those of his neighbours. His lands were mismanaged; his tenants were ignorant, indolent and prejudiced; but he was not discouraged. He did not intrust the management and improvement of his estates to others, but superintended the whole himself, traversing and examining every part of his extensive estates, and himself arranging the divisions and marches of the farms, with all the details of their sub-divisions, roads and ditches, fences and plantations.[3] He carefully observed and inquired into the systems of farming in England, and in different parts of Scotland, and introduced them on his own estates, more or less modified according to circumstances. And what was of equal, if not of more importance, he took care to settle in his farms, men of active habits and enlightened minds, who had been bred to farming and agricultural pursuits. Thus, he brought Mr. Wight from Ormiston, in East Lothian, who introduced the proper modes of levelling and straighting land, fallowing, drilling, turnip husbandry, &c., into Ayrshire.[4] His own extensive farm at Eglinton, he improved in the highest degree, whilst he paid particular attention to the planting and laying out of his grounds. To assist in carrying out his views, his lordship instituted an agricultural society, over which he presided for many years, and which, by disseminating his enlightened principles, conferred a lasting benefit, not only on Ayrshire but on the country at large. An instance of his lordship's passion for agricultural improvement will be found in the letter which was written to his brother, Colonel Montgomerie, on the eve of a duel with Mr. Bathurst. After various instructions in case he should fall, the last line of the letter contains this remarkable injunction—'Don't neglect horse howing, if you love Scotland.' This 'horse howing' alludes to the cleaning of drilled turnips by means of cleaners or scrapers, drawn by horses instead of by hand hoeing or hand weeding, which had long been the only practicable

[1] Col. Fullarton's Report, 1793, pp. 9–11.
[2] Ibid.
[3] Aiton's Report, p. 80.
[4] Ibid.

modes of cleaning broad-cast crops. If the hostile meeting alluded to in the letter took place, no serious consequences seem to have followed, as no notice is taken of it in the published lists of the more remarkable duels of last century.

On the 24th October 1769, Lord Eglintoun's promising career was cut short in a most melancholy manner. He was shot by an exciseman named Mungo Campbell, whom he had met and stopped when poaching on the estate of Ardrossan. Campbell had been previously caught poaching by the Earl, and had then promised not to repeat the offence. His lordship was irritated at finding him on his grounds a second time, and insisted upon Campbell delivering up his gun. The nature and circumstances of the encounter between the Earl and Campbell are brought out at sufficient length in the indictment—

Whereas by the law of God, and the laws of this and every other well governed realm, murder, or the feloniously bereaving any of his Majesty's subjects of their lives is a most atrocious crime, and severely punishable; yet true it is and of verity, that you, the said Mungo Campbell, have presumed to commit, and are guilty, actor or art and part of the said crime; in so far as the deceased Alexander Earl of Eglinton having, upon the 24th day of October, in this present year 1769, or upon one or other of the days of that month, or of the month of September preceding, or November following, gone out from his house of Eglinton, in the county of Ayr, in his coach, to look at some grounds, and being told by one of his servants, when upon the road from Saltcoats to Southennan, within the parish of Ardrossan, and said county of Ayr, that he observed two persons, one of them with a gun, at a small distance, upon his lordship's ground of Ardrossan; the said deceased Earl (who, by an advertisement in the newspapers, had forbid all unqualified persons to kill game within his estate) came out of his coach unarmed, and mounted a horse, which was led by his servant, and leaving in his coach an unloaded gun, he rode towards the two persons, who in the meantime went off the Earl's ground of Ardrossan into the adjacent sands; and he having come near to the two persons on the said sands, and discovering the one with the gun to be you, the said Mungo Campbell, he accosted you by saying—'Mr. Campbell, 'I did not expect to have found you so soon upon my grounds, after the promise you made me 'when I last catched you, when you had shot a hare.' And the Earl thereupon having desired you to deliver your gun to him, you refused so to do: And upon the Earl's approaching towards you, you cocked your gun, and presented or pointed it at him: And upon the Earl's then saying, 'Sir, will you shoot me?' you answered, that you would, if his lordship did not keep off. To which the Earl replied, that if he had his gun he could shoot pretty well too, or used words to that import; and desired a servant to bring his gun from his coach, which was then at some distance; and the Earl having dismounted, and walked towards you, leading his horse in his hand (without arms or offensive weapons of any kind), you retired, or stepped backwards as he approached, and continued to point your gun at him, desiring his lordship again to keep off,

or by God you would shoot him: and a servant near to the Earl having begged of you, for God's sake, to deliver your gun, you again refused, saying, you had a right to carry a gun: To which Lord Eglinton answered, that you might have a right to carry a gun, but not upon his estate without his liberty; but you still persisted in refusing to deliver your gun: and, by striking your foot against a small stone, having fallen upon your back when retiring, and keeping your gun pointed at Lord Eglinton, as above described, the muzzle of the gun came thereby to be altered in the direction from Lord Eglinton, and to be pointed near straight upwards; and Lord Eglinton, who was only distant from you two or three yards, having stopped, or stood still, upon your falling, you, as soon as you could recover yourself, and resting upon your arm or elbow, aimed or pointed your gun to the said Alexander Earl of Eglinton, and wickedly and feloniously fired at him, then standing unarmed, smiling at your accidental fall; and by the shot he was wounded in the belly in a dreadful manner, the whole lead shot in the gun having been thrown into his bowels; of which wound the said Alexander Earl of Eglinton died that night about twelve o'clock. And you, the said Mungo Campbell, after perpetrating so cruel, wicked, and barbarous a crime, did immediately run to one of Lord Eglinton's servants, who had brought his gun from his coach, and who was standing at some distance, and endeavoured to wrest the gun from him, but was prevented by the assistance of another servant; and when the two servants were engaged with you, defending the gun, and endeavouring to secure you, the Earl, who was then sitting on the ground, called to the servants 'to secure the man, for he had shot him; but 'not to use him ill;' or used words to that purpose and effect: and upon your being brought near to Lord Eglinton, he said to yourself, 'Campbell, I would not have shot you.'[1]

The trial of Campbell seems to have been unduly delayed. He and his friends had succeeded in putting off the evil day, much to the annoyance of Mr. John Mackenzie of Delvin, writer to the signet, the agent in Edinburgh of the Eglinton family, who on 15th February 1770, thus writes to Mr. Fairley of Fairley, one of the Commissioners of the Earl of Eglintoun —

'On the unfortunate death of the last Earl, I humbly thought the first attention due to his 'memory, so far as to bring this atrocious murderer to condign punishment. How strangely this 'has been postponed, in despite of all endeavours to forward the tryall. Both his friends and 'strangers may very justly be surprised; and I cannot help thinking it a just observation which 'I have heard made by persons both of rank and understanding, that had this Campbell slain one 'of his brethren gaudgers, under the precise same circumstances, he had been condemned to dye, 'and perhaps have suffered death before this time.' . . . 'Decency requires that my lord 'be in town, and some of his friends attend the tryall. It is really too weighty a matter to 'leave on the shoulders of any agent whatever, and his clerks.' . . . 'I am old enough to 'remember, that when Phinavon was try'd for killing the late Earl of Strathmore, which was

[1] Trial of Campbell, pp. 129, 130.

'really done by fatality, not design, that the Earl's brothers, and many of his relations attended 'in town during the whole tryall, which did not make more noise than this has done, and may 'do; and at that period our judges were as attentive to their duty as now, and full as 'decisive.'[1]

An account of the trial is preserved in a letter to Baron Mure from Mr. Belches[2]—

'Edinburgh, Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1770.

'Near 9 at Night.

'Sir—As you were desirous to know the particulars of what might have passed yesterday at 'the trial of Mungo Campbell, and as I was there all the time it lasted, except about two hours, 'my father thought it would be more satisfactory if I were to write than he, as I had more 'access to know the circumstances. To begin then—The Court met about half an hour after 'eight o'clock, when Mr. Maclaurin started an objection against the whole assize, on the ground 'that Mr. Muir the clerk, whose office it was to make up a list of the forty-five jurymen, by him 'presented to the Court for their approbation, had, contrary to his duty, previously shewed to 'Mr. Mackenzie, agent for the prosecutor, who approved thereof in the main, and also made 'some alterations. To this it was answered, that indeed the list had been shewed to Mr. 'Mackenzie; but that he made no alterations in it, save only that Sir William Cunningham and 'Sir R. Morton, having been named as jurymen in that first list, he suggested that they were 'improper persons, on account of the near relation of one at least to Lord Eglintoun. As a sort 'of sequel to this objection, it was also urged, that there were many landed gentlemen in the 'jury; to which it was answered, that as oft as a jury is chosen from the three Lothians, there is 'always a number of landed gentlemen; and the Justice-clerk observed, that he had sometimes 'heard it objected to a jury, that it was composed of persons below the rank of a pannel; but 'never, till now, that they were above it. So both these objections being overruled, the forty-'five being called over, excuses from several absentees sustained, Mr. Sandilands of Herdmon-'shields and Mr. Kincaid fined for non-compearance, and Andrew Sinclair reprimanded for 'being too late of coming into Court, and the fifteen sworn in, at about half an hour after nine 'the proof began, when one Andrew Wilson, who was present the whole time of the unfortunate 'affair, was examined for the space of three hours and a half. He gave an account of the whole 'matter, as set forth in the indictment, in which he was joined by the other witnesses present, 'who all, it is observable, swore that Lord Eglintoun used no harsh or threatening words when 'demanding the pannel's gun; a circumstance on which the pannel's council, in the information, 'had laid great stress, as a cause of provocation. The first witness indeed swore that his lord-'ship was in a passion while he persisted in his demand of the gun. On the other hand, it was 'acknowledged by the witnesses, that his lordship came up to Campbell on horseback, so that he 'probably would have rode him over, had not the pannel held out his gun, as in self defence.

[1] Original Letter at Eglinton.

[2] Caldwell Papers, Part Second, vol. ii. p. 164.

'Afterwards, his lordship dismounted, and pressed upon the pannel, and was so near him on his 'fall, that he was making a motion to get by his feet as he fell, and close in with him; while one 'of his servant's horses was so near with his heels, as almost to ride over him — circumstances 'then urged by the pannel to shew that he apprehended himself to be, and actually was in 'danger of his life. But in short, nothing could be more clearly proved, than that he had, 'when in company with two officers, said that he would shoot Lord Eglintoun if ever he should 'attempt to take his gun; that, accordingly, the deed was wilfully, not accidentally done; and 'that, so far from being concerned for what he had done, he said, if it were to be done, he 'would do it again. Fifteen witnesses were examined on the part of the prosecutor, and now 'came the proof for the pannel — and of all the silly, nonsensical, ludicrous proofs that ever 'were attempted, it was the foremost. As Mr. Lockhart well said, it put one in mind of the 'low, silly farces, that are often performed after the most deep and affecting tragedies. Five 'points were undertaken to be proved, and sixty witnesses were cited. The first point was, that 'the pannel had written and verbal licences to hunt on the estates near Eglintoun. This, as 'being a matter of no earthly consequence (for what was it to the purpose though he had licences 'from all the world, if he had not one from Lord Eglintoun), was admitted to be true. The 'second point was, that tho' Lord Eglintoun was in use every week to prosecute for trespass on 'the game, yet he never did prosecute the pannel. This, as equally immaterial with the former, 'was admitted by the prosecutor's council. The third point was, that Lord Eglintoun was in 'use to beat and abuse the people whose guns he took, so that they were obliged to have re-'course to surgeons and physicians. This was attempted to be proved by three, or rather two 'witnesses. The first one swore, that about fifteen years ago, as he was walking, with a gun in 'his hand, on his lordship's territories, he saw a gentleman riding up towards him, whom he 'afterwards found to be Lord Eglintoun; that he run and hid his gun, and then came out from 'below a bush where he had hidden it: That Lord Eglintoun, on coming up, gave him a blow on 'the head, which knocked him down; that after he recovered, his lordship demanded his gun, 'which he gave him: That he did not apply to any surgeon, for he was no otherwise hurt than 'by being dung stupid for a part of that day. Another man swore, that about four years ago a 'gentleman came up to him demanding his gun, as he was shooting on his territories; he did 'not then know, nor does he now know, that it was Lord Eglintoun; however, that deficiency in 'his evidence was made up by a third witness, who was called about the same story; that he 'struggled with the gentleman, and in struggling he gave him (the witness) a blow with his fist 'upon the head; that he never applied to any physician or surgeon, for he was not sore hurt; 'particularly, not to Dr. Cumming, whom he never employed in his life (notwithstanding the 'pannel had called that gentleman as a witness, to prove that he was under his care; however, 'they very wisely did not adduce him); and that the gun then taken from him was restored to 'him by his brother's means, whom he sent to get it from the person to whom Lord Eglintoun 'had given it. The fourth point was, with regard to his character as a man of humanity and

'benevolence. This the Court thought highly improper, as in this case the fact charged was 'such as might have been committed by a man of a very good character, therefore they examined 'only one witness, Mr. Ralston, who was minister of Newmills from 1752 to 1762, and of him 'they only asked if he thought he (the pannel) was a passionate man. He said he was some-'times apt to be angry. Lord Colston said, that was a character applicable to the whole world; 'so the witness said again, that the pannel was a man of strong feelings in most things. The 'fifth and last point was, that they might be allowed to bring proof that the indictment annexed 'to the pannel's information was the original indictment, in which they said several things were, 'which were omitted or mis-stated in the second one. To this great opposition was made by the 'council on the other side, that as that first indictment was only one of four, printed only to be 'submitted to council, and of which no use was intended to be made, the pannel could no more 'argue from it as evidence, than they could, were they to recover the rough draught of an infor-'mation or memorial, which was never meant to go farther than a lawyer's consulting room; and 'that, further, nothing could now be considered as evidence but what had been brought out in 'the proof now led. Accordingly, the Court would not allow a proof of this point. And such 'was the substance of the exculpatory proof, than which never was a poorer seen, even though 'all they offered to prove had been proved. I forgot, when on the third point, to mention, that 'the pannel's council insisted that they should be allowed to prove, that it was the general 'opinion and belief in the country, that Lord Eglintoun was in use to beat the people whose 'guns he took; but the Court, on its being objected to by the prosecutor, refused it as improper. 'The proof being thus concluded on both sides, Mr. Lockhart began his charge to the jury 'about ten minutes before twelve at night, and spoke for an hour and three quarters; but was 'obliged to sit down in the midst of it, overcome with heat and fatigue. He did not speak so 'well as usual; but was scurrilous and abusive to a great degree, calling the poor pannel an 'assassin, a miscreant, and other hard names, very improper on such an occasion, where the proof 'was so clear in his client's favour — a conduct which was rather like crowing over and insulting 'the poor man. He even talked of inflicting extraordinary punishments on him, as if he had 'already obtained a verdict, and he were praying for pronouncing judgment. I will not pretend 'to enter into the manner or matter of this charge, as you may well believe that he entered into 'the proof, in order to shew that the firing of the gun was not accidental; and that he endea-'voured to shew the futility of the pannel's defences, viz. — being in defence of his life, property, 'and honour; arguing, that here he was in no danger of losing all, or any of these; conse-'quently he must be found guilty of murder. Mr. Rae began about twenty-five minutes from 'two, and spoke till about four o'clock — and indeed made an extremely good speech, urging all 'he could in favour of his client, both from the proof and from the several defences; and told 'the jury, that although the Court had found the libel, notwithstanding the defences pleaded, 'relative to infer the pains of law, yet they were not bound by such judgment, but must consider 'the whole together, both law and fact, and so either find him not guilty, or bring in a special

'verdict. After he had ended, Lord Justice-Clerk said, he would state only one thing to the 'jury, which was, that Mr. Rae had, in his charge, seemed to urge it as a legal objection to all 'the witnesses present when the Earl was killed, that they were, and some of 'em still are 'menial servants in the family. This objection (his lordship said), if meant to be a legal one, 'ought to have been proposed at the beginning of the examination; and besides, however in 'some cases it might have weight, here it could have none, as they were the only witnesses. 'How far it might affect their credibility was another question, and that he left it to themselves 'to judge. All being thus over, about ten minutes after four, the Court adjourned till six 'o'clock this evening; when, accordingly, the verdict was returned, finding him Guilty, by 'a great plurality of voices (nine to six). Accordingly, sentence was pronounced, that he shall 'be hanged in the Grass Market, on Wednesday 11th April, and his body shall be delivered 'to Dr. Monro.

'Such is the very imperfect account I have given you of what passed. I would flatter myself 'nothing material is omitted, tho' I by no means intended to enter into a very minute detail. 'My father joins me in compliments and best wishes to you, Mrs. Mure, Miss Mure, and the 'young ladies. Hoping that Peg is now in a way of being quite well, I ever am, Sir, your most 'obedient humble servant, 'ALEXR. BELSHES.'

Campbell committed suicide in the prison the morning after his trial. This gave rise to a report long current, and extensively believed amongst the lower classes in Ayrshire, that Campbell, who was well connected, had, through powerful influence, been allowed to escape from jail and flee the country. The truth of the matter is, however, that he hanged himself in prison the day after his trial, and that his body was about to be given to the professor of anatomy for dissection, when his counsel interfered and prevented it, on the plea that dissection was not a legal penalty for suicide. The body was then privately buried under Salisbury Crags. But the Edinburgh rabble discovered the grave, took out the body, and tossed it about till they were tired. To prevent farther indecency and outrage, Campbell's friends caused the body to be sunk in the sea.[1]

At the time of his death, the Earl of Eglintoun was engaged to be married to Jane, daughter of Sir John Maxwell of Pollok-Maxwell, widow of James Montgomerie of Lainshaw. A miniature of the Earl, which was presented by him to his betrothed, is still preserved.[2]

[1] Caldwell Papers, Part Second, vol. ii. p. 169.

[2] Having no house on his estates of Eagleshame and Eastwood, the Earl made the mansion-house of Pollok-Maxwell his home when visiting his Renfrewshire estates. On the day on which the Earl was shot, the servant at Pollok thought he saw his lordship walking up stairs to the room usually occupied by him. He announced to the family that the Earl had arrived; but the Earl was not to be found in the house. The family presumed that he had gone out immediately after, and rode to Eagleshame or Eastwood, which he frequently did, without announcing his arrival, if he was pressed for time. Dinner was prepared for him, but he never arrived. The Pollok family learned next day, that the Earl had been shot at Ardrossan, at the time that the servant supposed he saw him in Pollok House. [Communicated by Sir John Maxwell of Pollok-Maxwell, Baronet.]

XXII. 2. Archibald, eleventh Earl of Eglintoun [1769–1796],

Succeeded to the titles and estates of Eglinton on the death of his brother in 1769. He was born in 1726, according to the following entry by his father in the family bible: 'Archibald my third son was born the eightien of May 1726, betuixt thrie 'and four in the morning, and was christened the twentie fourth, and was named 'Archbald.' Of his early years little is known of any interest or importance. His mother writes to Lord Milton, on 16th December 1733 — 'Zow may believe, my dear 'lord, I have been and am still in great anxuaty about little Archie, who has had a 'scarlet fever. They writte that he is out of danger, but I know the conciquence of 'thes inflamitory diseases are often very bad, as he is a high blooded child, and subject 'to coughs. I own I parted from him with great unwillingness. It was indead the 'greatest proof I coud give of passive obedience.'[1] In the following year the two brothers had an attack of small-pox. A few years after, as already mentioned, Archibald went to school at Irvine with his brother. From 1st May 1737 to 30th September 1738, Archibald was educated at Haddington along with his brother. In October 1738, Archibald was sent to Eton, and was placed under the care of Dr. Andrew Graham, with whom he remained till February 1741. The Doctor's bills of expenses contain several contradictory entries regarding the behaviour of his pupil: Thus, on 27th January 1740, there is charged the sum of threepence for 'redeeming his gramar and 'lexicon from the birch desk.' But in the following month, Archibald redeemed himself, and received one shilling 'as a reward for making a piece of Latin much better 'than I expected.' This proficiency was soon counterbalanced by a few pranks in glass and housebreaking, as disclosed by the following entries: 'Paid the glazier for '6 squares in his room, 1s.;' and 'his share being two fourteenth parts for repairing 'the roof of the little-house, which had been twice demolished by the boys, 4s.' On Archibald's leaving Eton, Dr. Graham wrote to his guardian, Lord Milton, the following account of his pupil: 'I could have wished, not only for my own sake but 'his, that he had stayed a year or two longer, because I'm persuaded it would have 'been greatly for his advantage. This last half year he has been abundantly more 'diligent than he was before, and has merited Mr. Sumner's good testimony as well as 'mine. It is true I found it impracticable to make him enter into the drudgery of 'grammar rules and parsing, and consequently it was impossible to make him a 'thorough Latin scholar; but I had begun him with geography, which he likt, and

[1] Original letter at Salton.

'intended to have taught him fortification and the easy parts of the mathematicks, and 'to have made him read several useful and entertaining books in English. In short, 'I much regret his loss; but the thing is done, and there is no remedy. I found him 'perfectly answer the character your lordship gave me of him, in a letter, before I saw 'him; and though I can't pretend that he carries away a great deal of Latin with him, 'yet he has left behind him the character of a sensible, ingenious, manly, well behav'd 'boy.'[1] After leaving Eton, Mr. Archibald Montgomerie appears to have joined his brother, Lord Eglintoun, at Winchester school, where he remained till October 1741, when he went to Berwick, and continued his studies there during that and the following year. In 1743 he went to London, and from thence to Geneva, where he prosecuted his education during part of the years 1743 and 1744. Neither the confinement of school nor classical studies were to his taste; the duties and pursuits of a soldier's life seemed to him more agreeable. He accordingly made choice of the military profession, and entered the army in 1744; his first commission, as cornet in the Scots Greys being dated 15th March of that year.[2] His mother writes on 17th April 1744, that he was then 'a cornet in the Grays, after having been nam'd an 'ensin in Graham's regiment of Marins — a commission by no means to his liking.'[3] In the same year, 31st October, he obtained by purchase a captain's commission in Colonel Fleming's regiment.[4] He obtained the majority of the 36th regiment of foot by commission, dated 28th June 1751; he raised the 78th regiment of Highlanders, and was appointed their Lieutenant-Colonel, by commission dated the 4th January 1757. Countess Susanna alludes to this last promotion of her son Archibald, in these words — 'I heard this day' (24th March 1757) 'from Abercairney, that my highland Colonel 'is one 100 above compleat. A quick progress for a west country Whig in the North 'Highlands. He is to be with the men in Glasgow as next week.'[5] He accompanied this regiment to America, served with it under General Amherst, saw much severe fighting, and distinguished himself. On one occasion especially, Colonel Montgomerie attracted the notice and called forth the approbation of his commander. He had been put in command of an expedition against the Cherookees, a powerful Indian tribe, who had been committing dreadful havoc amongst the British colonists, and chiefly through his skill and energy the Indians were reduced to perfect obedience, and the expedition returned perfectly successful. At the general election of 1761, he was

[1] Original letter at Eglinton. It appears from Dr. Graham's accounts, that Mr. Archibald Montgomerie had taken with him to Eton a horse, which must have been rather a shabby specimen of the then Eglinton stud, as the poor animal, when sold, only brought the moderate sum of £2.

[2] Commission at Eglinton.

[3] Vol. i. No. 304.

[4] Vol. i. No. 302.

[5] Vol. i. No. 312.

returned both for the county of Ayr and the united burghs of Wigton, Galloway, Stranraer and Whithorn. He took his seat as representative of the county, and the same year was appointed one of her Majesty's equerries, an office which he retained till his accession to the earldom in 1769. On 1st March 1764, he was appointed governor of Dumbarton Castle; in February 1766, he was made Deputy-Ranger of St. James' and Hyde Parks; and on the 24th June 1767, he was appointed Colonel of the 51st regiment of foot. On a vacancy in 1776, he was chosen one of the sixteen representative Scottish Peers, and was re-elected in the general elections of 1780, 1784, and 1790. He was appointed Governor of Edinburgh Castle in 1782; and on 2nd December 1795, the Colonelcy of the Scots Greys was conferred on him. In the army, he was successively raised to the rank of Major-General on 25th May 1772, of Lieutenant-General on 29th August 1777, and of General on 25th October 1793.

His lordship zealously exerted himself to carry out the plans for the improvement of agriculture, and the proper management of his estates, set on foot by his lamented brother. As the old leases terminated, he abolished all small farms on his estates, redivided his lands, making the farms larger and reletting them on entirely new principles. He built comfortable farm houses with new and commodious steadings; and in their leases bound his tenants to a certain rotation of cropping, which had already been proved to contribute both to the immediate benefit of the tenants themselves, and the permanent improvement of the soil.[1]

This Earl purchased the estate of Giffen and several others, which, by disposition dated 18th January 1791, he conveyed to trustees to be held for behoof of his children; whom failing, to Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield, his cousin, and his heirs-male; and failing them, to the heirs-male and of entail succeeding to the honours and estate of Eglinton.

After an active and useful life, his lordship died at Eglinton Castle, 30th October 1796, aged seventy-three.[2]

His lordship married first, on the 30th March 1772, Lady Jean Lindsay, eldest daughter of George, eighteenth Earl of Crawford. Lady Jean died without issue, at Eglinton Castle, the 22nd January 1778, aged twenty-one. The following Epitaph was inscribed on the tomb of her ladyship—

[1] Aiton's report, p. 85.

[2] There is at Windsor Castle a portrait of his lordship. It is probably 'the unfinished portrait of the late Earl of 'Eglintoune, for which his Royal Highness (the Prince 'of Wales) returned' the executors 'of his lordship his 'sincere thanks,' by letter dated Carlton House, January 26, 1798. [Original at Eglinton.] King William the Fourth offered this portrait to the present Earl of Eglinton. But his lordship respectfully declined the offer, assuring his Majesty that he considered it an honour that the portrait of his grandfather should remain in Windsor Castle.

Blest with each native grace, each gentle art,
That charms the eye, and captivates the heart;
The sense of age, warm'd with the glow of youth,
And sage discretion, join'd to manly truth;
Polite, yet artless; simple, though refin'd;
Her form all grace, all harmony her mind,
Where sober wisdom, radiant wit, conspire,
A virgin's softness, and a seraph's fire;
All that the sage reveres, the youth admires,
What reason dictates, what the muse inspires.
Her modest virtues, in a low estate
Had drawn respect, but dignify'd a great:
Conspicuous plac'd in a licentious age,
To stem the torrent and repress the rage
Of vice. —— A fair example, lent, not giv'n;
Alas, too soon recall'd to native heav'n!
Her drooping lord and mourning parents join'd
With mutual sorrows to inscribe her shrine.[1]

The Earl married, secondly, on 9th August 1783, Frances, only daughter of Sir William Twisden of Raydonhall, Kent, and had two daughters —

1. Lady Mary, born 5th March 1787, who married at London, 28th March 1803, Archibald Lord Montgomerie, eldest son of Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglinton.

2. Lady Susanna, born at London on 26th May, and baptized 28th July 1788. She died at Colchester, Essex, 16th November 1805, in her eighteenth year. Lord Montgomerie writes of her death in these terms: Colchester, 19th November 1805. 'It is with great concern and sorrow, that I acquaint you with a most distressing 'circumstance. We have lost poor Lady Susan by a death most sudden and most 'unexpected. She had complained a good deal for two days before her death of pains 'in her ears and in the lower part of her head. Not the smallest danger was ap-'prehended till about three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, when she appeared evidently 'in a stupor, and fears were immediately entertained of an apoplexy, which turned 'out to be too true, as she continued perfectly insensible, and died the same evening 'about seven o'clock . . . Lady Montgomerie is, as you may conceive, in the 'greatest distress. I have taken her to London, and returned here myself to give 'directions about the funeral.'[2]

[1] Collection of Epitaphs and Monumental Inscriptions, chiefly in Scotland. Glasgow, 1834. [2] Original letter at Eglinton.

XXII. 3. Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglinton [1796–1819],

Succeeded his cousin Archibald, the eleventh Earl. He was the son of Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, who was the son of Hugh Montgomerie, son of Colonel James Montgomerie, first of Coilsfield, the fourth son of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, as is more fully shown in the account of the Coilsfield branch. Hugh was born and baptized on 29th November 1739,[1] succeeded his mother in the estate of Skelmorlie, and his father in the estate of Coilsfield in 1783, and on the death of his cousin, became twelfth Earl of Eglinton in 1796.

Hugh entered the army in 1756, and saw considerable service during seven years which he spent in America as a captain, first in the 78th Foot, and afterwards in the 1st Royals.[2] When the war with France broke out in 1788, he was raised to the rank of major. He was elected member of Parliament for Ayrshire at the general election of 1780, and re-elected in 1784.[3] In 1789 his seat in Parliament became vacant, by his being appointed Inspector of Military Roads in Scotland; and the duties of that office he discharged in a manner conducive to the public good and his own honour. He travelled and retravelled the Highland wilds on foot, to survey and select the best routes for roads; and by his care and skill in laying these off, so shortened the length of roadway, and lessened the number of bridges and other expensive works, as to effect a great saving of public money. On the breaking out of the war in 1793, he was appointed by the Duke of Argyle, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Argyleshire Fencible regiment. About the same time, he raised the regiment of the

[1] Tarbolton Parish Records, and Coilsfield Family Bible at Eglinton.

[2] On his return from the American war, Colonel Montgomerie was annoyed by the interrogatories of his mother, whose maternal fondness could never be satisfied with the narration of the toils and perils to which he had been exposed. More than usually teased on one occasion, he good humouredly replied—'Deed, mother, to tell the truth, 'the greatest difficulty and annoyance I experienced, was 'when, in endeavouring to clear a fence, I happened to 'leap into a close column of very long *nettles!*'—no enviable situation for a man with a kilt on. [Portraits by John Kay, in 2 vols. Edin. 1842, vol. ii. p. 330.]

[3] Burns, in his 'Earnest Cry and Prayer to the Scot-'tish Representatives of the House of Commons,' pays a compliment to the gallantry of the member for his own county of Ayr, but at the expense of his oratory—

'See, sodger Hugh, my watchman stented,
'If bardies e'er are represented;
'I ken if that your sword were wanted,
'Ye'd lend a hand,
'But when there's ought to say anent it,
'Ye're at a stand.'

This stanza was omitted from the poem by the author. [The Life and Works of Robert Burns, 4 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, W. & R. Chambers, 1851. Vol. i. p. 206.]

In the 'Brigs of Ayr,' the poet again alludes to the gallant Laird of Coilsfield—

'Next followed Courage, with his martial stride,
'From where the Feal wild woody coverts bride."

Coilsfield is situated on the Feal, or Faile, a tributary of the Ayr. [Ibid., p. 311.]

West Lowland Fencibles, of which he was colonel. He afterwards raised the Glasgow Regiment of Fencibles, which, however, was reduced in 1795. His lordship was also lieutenant-governor of Edinburgh Castle. At the general election of 1796, he was a third time returned for the county of Ayr. On this occasion, however, his seat was almost immediately vacated by his becoming Earl of Eglinton. At the same time, he seems to have resigned the lieutenant-colonelcy of the West Lowland Fencibles in favour of William Mure of Caldwell. In 1798, when the French landed an army of 7000 men in Ireland, to foster the Irish rebellion, General Sir Ralph Abercromby wrote to Colonel Mure, telling him that he would receive orders to pass over to Ireland, and that it was not doubted that the whole, or at least the greater part of the West Lowlanders would go with alacrity to oppose a foreign foe. In this hope, however, Sir Ralph and the other authorities were disappointed; for though the regiment was in good order and discipline, and the Earl of Eglinton, as well as Colonel Mure, had been written to to secure their services, and though the regiment had already declared their readiness to go in case of an invasion, yet now that the enemy had actually landed, a mere fraction of them only volunteered to go. This backwardness of the men was a great disappointment both to the Earl and Colonel Mure, and led to the resignation of the latter as lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. 'I know,' says he to the Earl, in his letter of the 25th September 1798, 'you feel, and I assure you I do, as a very 'serious disappointment, the backwardness, on this important occasion, of men of whose 'zeal and spirit we had lately reason to think as highly as of their order and discipline 'in other respects.

'This very disagreeable business, with concern I inform you, must prevent my 'continuing in the station I hold in your regiment.

'It is much to be regretted, that to ask soldiers to exceed the terms of service for 'which they enlisted, ever became necessary. But when a regiment, on the invasion 'of a foreign foe, declines going to where the enemy are, though the place is little 'beyond the limits of their engagement to serve, and resolves to await the enemy's 'coming to them, I confess I feel neither pleasure nor satisfaction in being their lieu-'tenant-colonel . . . I must therefore request you to accept of my resignation, 'and appoint another lieutenant-colonel. I have not come to this resolution rashly, but 'after deliberation.'[1]

On a vacancy in their number, by the death of the Earl of Errol, in 1798, his lordship was chosen one of the representative Scottish Peers, and was re-elected at the general election in 1802. He was created a Peer of the United Kingdom, by the title

[1] Caldwell Papers, Part Second, vol. ii. pp. 348-350.

of Baron Ardrossan of Ardrossan, by patent dated 15th February 1806, with limitation to the heirs-male of his body. He held the office of Lord Lieutenant of the county of Ayr. He was appointed one of the State Councillors for Scotland to the Prince Regent, and afterwards Knight of the Thistle.[1]

Soon after his accession to the earldom, he rebuilt the Castle of Eglinton, and greatly enlarged, improved and beautified the pleasure grounds.[2] By far the most extensive of his lordship's undertakings was the construction of Ardrossan Harbour and the Paisley Canal. A company was formed to carry out this undertaking, and in 1805, obtained Acts of Parliament for the construction of the canal and harbour. The foundation stone of the harbour was laid on the 30th July 1806, and it was completed about the year 1819. The canal, however, was only made from Glasgow to Johnstone. The Earl devoted himself to the realization of his scheme with much enthusiasm, and laid out vast sums of money in the prosecution of it. But though the work, if completed, would manifestly have been a great public benefit, Lord Eglinton's efforts were not seconded, either by the public or the government, as he might have expected. Since the harbour was constructed, it has always been frequented by a considerable quantity of shipping, and is at present in a flourishing state. The town of Ardrossan is rapidly increasing, and has become a favourite resort for sea bathers on account of its beach, which presents the finest sands on the coast of Ayrshire.

The Earl was very fond of music, in which he was very proficient. He played well on the violoncello, and formed a collection of violins of considerable value, which has been dispersed since his death.

His lordship was much esteemed in the county of Ayr, over which he so long presided as Lord Lieutenant; and as a memorial of his personal worth and public services, there is in the County Hall at Ayr an excellent full-length portrait of him in the uniform of the 78th Highlanders, painted by public subscription.

The Earl married, contract dated 3rd June 1772, his cousin Eleonora, fourth and youngest daughter of Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill. In a letter to Mr. Mundell, his London solicitor, dated 28th January 1807, he says—'I have spoken to Lady

[1] Vol. i. No. 328.

[2] The Earl was very careful of his policies and plantations, and was frequently provoked by trespassers, as to which many anecdotes are told. On one occasion, Daft Will Speir, who was a privileged haunter of the Castle, was taking a near cut and crossing a fence; he was discovered by the Earl, who called to him to 'come back, sir; that's 'not the road.' 'Do you ken,' said Will, 'whaur I'm 'gaun?' 'No,' replied the Earl. 'Weel, how the deil do 'ye ken whither this be the road or no?' On another occasion, the Earl found a boy climbing up a tree, and called to him to come down. The boy declined, because, as he said, the Earl would beat him. His lordship pledged his honour that he would not do so. But the boy replied, that he 'didna ken onything about your honour, but if ye 'say as sure as death, I'll come doun.'

ARDROSSAN CASTLE.

'Eglinton. Neither she nor I can exactly remember the day we were married, but 'it was in the month of June 1772.'[1] The issue of this marriage was three sons and three daughters —

1. Archibald, Lord Montgomerie.

2. The Honourable Roger Montgomerie, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, who died of fever when on service at Port-Royal in Jamaica, in January 1799, unmarried.

3. Alexander, who died young and unmarried.

4. Lady Jane, who was intrusted with the care of the present Earl during his early years, his tutor at law, Mr. Montgomerie of Annick Lodge, having resigned his right to that office in favour of her ladyship and others, married in 1828, Archibald Hamilton of Carcluie, who died on 14th February 1848 without issue. Lady Jane survives him.

5. Lady Lilias married, first, at Coilsfield, 1st February 1796, Robert Dundas Macqueen of Braxfield, in the county of Lanark, who died without issue in 1816; secondly, at Eglinton Castle on 21st August 1817, Richard Alexander Oswald of Auchencruive, without issue. Mr. Oswald died on 19th June 1841, at Vevey in Switzerland, and was buried in the beautiful cemetery there. Lady Lilias also died at Vevey on 10th September 1845, and was interred in the same grave with her husband.

6. Lady Mary, who died young and unmarried.

Eleonora Countess of Eglinton died at Eglinton Castle on 17th January 1817, in the 75th year of her age. In a letter from Lord Eglinton, dated the 18th August that year, he mentions that the health of his daughter, Lady Jane, had suffered severely from constant attendance 'on the late mournful occasions.' The stroke to his lordship had been severe in the extreme; but he refrained from expressing the misery it had brought upon himself.

Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglinton, died on 15th December 1819, aged eighty years, and was succeeded by his grandson, the present Earl.[2]

XXIII. Archibald Lord Montgomerie [1773-1814],

Was born at the Countess of Crawfurd's house, Bourtreehill, on the 30th July 1773. He entered the army as an ensign in the 42nd Regiment, and afterwards was con-

[1] Original at Eglinton.

[2] In his old age, the Earl was fond of riding on horseback. He was such a fearless rider, that his family became alarmed for his safety, and endeavoured to dissuade him from it. He replied, that he would as soon die in a ditch by tumbling off his horse as anywhere else.

stituted lieutenant-colonel of the Glasgow Regiment, raised by his father, and which was reduced in 1795. He was also appointed colonel of the Ayrshire Militia, but resigned his commission in 1807. He was promoted to the rank of major-general in 1809, and was employed on active service in Sicily in 1812 and 1813. While there, in the absence of Lieutenant-General Lord William Bentinck, he represented his Majesty George III. at the Court of Palermo. He was obliged to leave Sicily on account of bad health, and died at Alicant, 4th January 1814, to the great grief of his aged father.[1] He was buried in the Convent Chapel at Gibraltar, and on his tomb was inscribed an epitaph, supposed to be by Canning, of which the following is a portion —

Of Caledonia's land the grace,
Chief scion of an ancient race,
Of Eglinton the hope and boast,
Belov'd, admir'd, and early lost;
From life and all its blessings torn,
And here by weeping strangers borne,
Montgomerie, model for the brave,
Was destin'd to this foreign grave;
Sternly refus'd the wished-for blow,
By cruel death! insidious foe!
He fell by slow disease and pain.
Oh! why not on the battle plain?
Why! why! denied his ardent claim,
To die the soldier's death of fame?
Yet life sustain'd a noble pause,
Surrender'd in his country's cause.
With honour's banner o'er him laid,
He sleeps beneath that holy shade
With honour's sword upon his heart,
Devoted friends, too dear to part.
He rests among the warriors round,
In glory's consecrated ground.
Murmurs be hush'd, he shares the fate
Of many a gallant chief and great.
But, Soldier! thou mayst shed a tear,
Thy leader and thy friend lies here.
If thus a soldier's tear may seek,
The war-worn furrow in his cheek;
And strangers feel the mournful gloom
That wraps Montgomerie's timeless tomb.

Archibald, Lord Montgomerie, married, in Duke Street, Westminster, on 28th March 1803, Lady Mary Montgomerie, only surviving daughter of Archibald, eleventh Earl of Eglinton, and heiress of the large estates acquired by her grandfather, the ninth Earl, and entailed by him on heirs general. The male and female lines of the family were thus united. When the marriage was first arranged, the Lord Chief Baron Macdonald, who was cousin-german to Lady Montgomerie, and had taken an interest in her education, thus expressed himself on the subject, in a letter dated 13th December 1802, to the family agent — 'On every account it is a desirable union, and Lord 'Eglinton's best wishes are fulfilled. To me, Lord Montgomery has always appeared 'a most estimable young man. He is prudent and gentle in his manners, and seems

[1] Vol. i. No. 329.

'both good natured and good tempered, and there is every prospect of happiness. I 'must own, too, that a great weight is taken off my mind. Knowing what Lord 'Eglinton's earnest wishes were, and knowing at the same time, that the inclinations of 'a young female are not always to be controlled by their judgement, I could not but 'look with apprehension at the future.' . . . 'Lady Mary is most properly of 'opinion, that the marriage should not take place till she shall have completed her 'sixteenth year.' Of this marriage there were four sons —

1. The first son was born at Eglinton Castle on the 18th December 1803, and only survived a few hours.[1]

2. The second son was also born at Eglinton Castle, and only survived a few hours.

3. Hugh, Lord Montgomerie, born at Coilsfield on 24th January 1811. After the death of his father, the Earl his grandfather obtained, on 21st May 1817, a gift of tutory dative of the estate of Hugh Lord Montgomerie, as next in succession to him failing his brother Archibald. Hugh died at Eglinton Castle, 13th July 1817. A marble monument to his memory was erected by his grandfather in Eglinton Park, with the following inscription —

TO THE MEMORY OF HIS BELOVED GRANDSON,
HUGH,
WHO DIED THE 13TH JULY 1817,
AT THE AGE OF SIX YEARS AND A FEW MONTHS:
A CHILD OF PROMISE.
ON THIS SPOT, ONCE HIS LITTLE GARDEN,
THIS STONE IS ERECTED
BY HIS AFFLICTED AND DISCONSOLATE GRANDFATHER,
HUGH EARL OF EGLINTON.

4. Archibald William, present Earl of Eglinton.

Lady Montgomerie married, secondly, in 1815, Sir Charles Montolieu Lamb of Beauport, Baronet, by whom she had one son —

Charles James Saville Montgomerie Lamb, born at Beauport in November 1816. He married Charlotte Anne, daughter of Arthur Grey of Bersted, Sussex, and had issue — one son Archibald, born 5th November 1845, and three daughters. 1. Mary Montgomerie, born 24th February 1843; 2. Clara, born 6th December 1844; died 12th February 1856; 3. Flora, born 14th February 1849. Mr. Charles Lamb died on 29th November 1856, survived by his wife.

Lady Montgomerie died on 12th June 1848, survived by her second husband.

[1] Scots Magazine, vol. lxv. 883.

XXIV. Archibald William, thirteenth and present Earl of Eglinton,

Was born at Palermo in Sicily, on the 29th of September 1812.[1] He was brought from thence to Eglinton Castle, on the death of his father in 1814, and became the peculiar charge of Earl Hugh, his grandfather, who as his nearest heir-male, had a gift of tutory of his estate on 13th October 1817. After the death of the Earl, William Montgomerie of Annick Lodge became nearest heir-male of the young Earl; but resigned his right of tutory. This is neither the time nor the place to write a biography of the noble Earl. His Lordship was educated at Eton. He early took part in the debates and business of the House of Lords. When Sir Robert Peel's conversion to free trade principles, and the consequent repeal of the corn laws, broke up the old, and led to the formation of new political parties, his lordship became a prominent member of the Conservative party.

In February 1852, when the Earl of Derby was called upon to form a government, the Earl of Eglinton was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. The reception of the Earl at Dublin was very cordial by parties of every shade of political creed, and his administration of the Irish affairs was eminently successful and popular.

In November 1852, the Earl was elected Lord-Rector of Glasgow University, and his installation took place on the 30th November. His lordship was afterwards elected Lord-Rector of Marischall College, Aberdeen.

On the return of the Derby Ministry to office in February 1858, the Earl was again appointed to his former post of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. Recollecting his former successful administration in that country, the Irish people welcomed his lordship's return to Ireland with every demonstration of satisfaction.

The representation of the Seton or Winton family having vested in Lord Eglinton, his lordship was, on 22nd December 1840, served nearest and lawful heir-male general, and also nearest and lawful heir-male of provision to George, fourth Earl of Wintoun, Lord Seton and Tranent. This service took place before the Sheriff of Edinburgh and a distinguished jury, including Lords Gillies, Moncreiff, and other Judges of the Court

[1] 'I do hereby certify, that according to the prescribed 'rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, Archi- 'bald William, son of Archibald Lord Montgomerie of 'Coilsfield, Ayrshire, N.B., and of Mary his wife, was 'baptized in the city of Palermo, in the Island of Sicily, 'this twentieth day of October in the year of our Lord '1812, by me,

'Archibald Eyre Obins, M.D., Chaplain to Lord 'William Bentinck, British Minister at the Court 'Palermo.'

'In presence of W. Bentinck. J. Campbell.'

[Recorded in the Register of Births, in the Parish of Tarbolton.]

of Session, Mr. Thomas Thomson, advocate, and other gentlemen well qualified for legal and genealogical investigation.

In the case for Lord Eglinton which was laid before the jury, it was shown that the Winton honours were last held by George the fifth Earl, who was attainted for having joined the rising in favour of the Stewart family in 1715. The right to the honours was not forfeited absolutely, but was only in abeyance during the existence of the attainted Earl and the heirs entitled to succeed under the same substitution with himself; and on their failure, the right to the honours revived in the collateral line of Eglinton.

Previous to this service Lord Eglinton had been advised by eminent counsel of his right to the Winton and Seton honours. Mr. (afterwards Lord) Rutherfurd gave an opinion in 1836, 'that Lord Eglinton has right to the honours of Winton, Seton and 'Tranent, notwithstanding the attainder of George, fifth Earl of Winton. The case of 'Park, adjudged in the House of Lords *tempore* Lord Hardwicke, is still of unques-'tioned authority, and must rule every case in the same circumstances. I see no 'ground of distinction between it and the present case.'

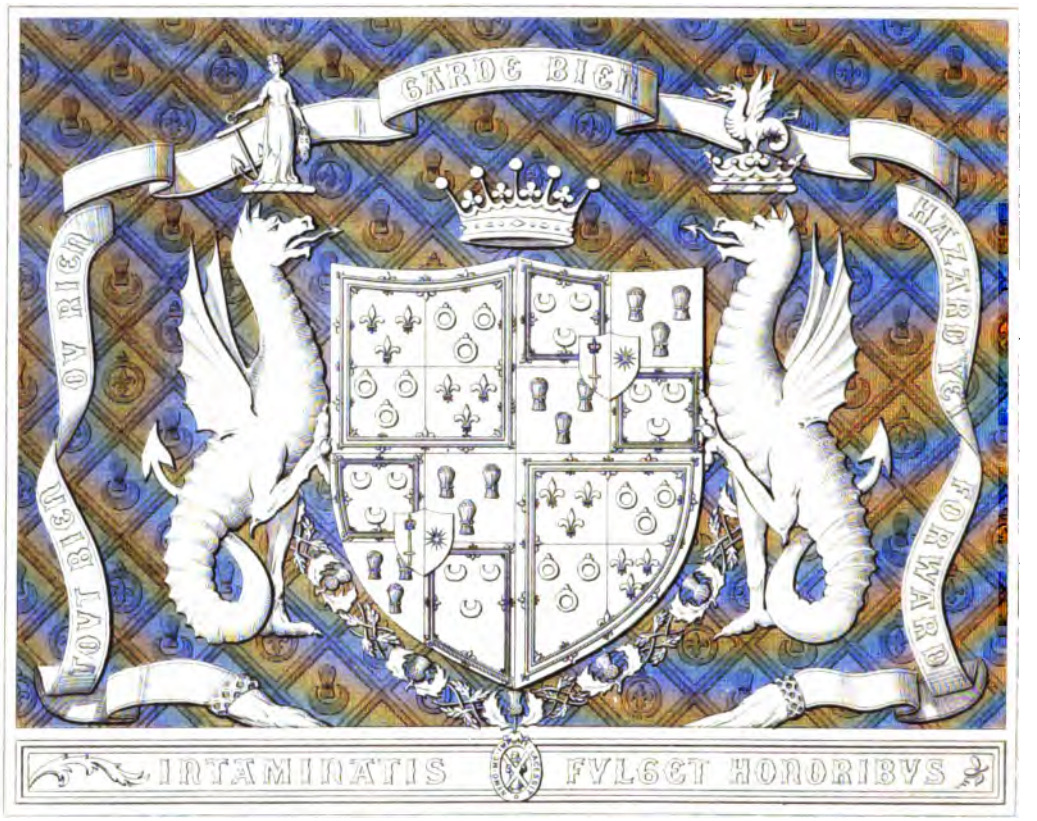
After expeding this service, Lord Eglinton assumed the additional titles of Earl of Winton, Lord Seton, &c. On resigning the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, his Lordship was created Earl of Winton in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with limitation to the heirs-male of his body, by patent dated 17th June 1859.

The Earl of Eglinton and Winton was Colonel of the Prince Regent's Royal Regiment of Ayrshire Militia, but resigned on being appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire. He was made a Knight of the Thistle in 1853. His lordship married, first, on 17th February 1841, Theresa, daughter of Charles Newcomen, and widow of Richard Howe Cockerell, Commander R. N., and by her, who died on 16th December 1853, he has three sons and one daughter —

1. Archibald William, Lord Montgomerie, born 3rd December 1841. He is a midshipman in the Royal Navy.
2. Honourable Seton-Montolieu Montgomerie, who takes the sirname and designation of Hamilton of Bourtreehill, born 15th May 1846.
3. Honourable George Arnulph Montgomerie, born 23rd February 1848.
4. Lady Egidia Montgomerie, born 17th December 1843.

The Earl of Eglinton married, secondly, at the Vice-regal Lodge, Dublin, on 3rd November 1858, Lady Adela Caroline Harriet Capel, daughter of Arthur Earl of Essex.

Armorial Bearings.



Shield: Four grand quarters: I. and IV., quarterly, first and fourth, azure, three fleurs de lis, Or, for Montgomerie; second and third, gules, three annulets, Or, stoned, azure, for Eglinton: All within a bordure, Or, charged with a double tressure flowered and counter-flowered, gules: II. and III., quarterly, first and fourth, Or, three crescents, within a double tressure, flowered and counter-flowered, gules, for Seton; second and third, azure, three garbs, Or, for Buchan; over all, an escutcheon parted per pale, gules and azure, the first charged with a sword in pale, proper, pommelled and hilted, Or, supporting an imperial crown, with a double tressure of the last, as a coat of augmentation for their loyalty; the second charged with a star of twelve points, argent, for the title of Winton; and surrounding the Shield, the order of the Thistle with badge pendant.

Crest — Eglinton: A lady dressed in ancient apparel, azure, holding in her dexter hand an anchor, and in her sinister the head of a savage couped. Winton: On a ducal coronet, Or, a dragon, vert, spouting fire, his wings elevated.

Supporters — Eglinton: Two dragons, vert, vomiting fire. Winton: Two foxes, proper, collared and chained, Or, each collar charged with three crescents, gules.

Mottos — Eglinton: Garde Bien. Winton: Hazard yet forward: Intaminatis fulget honoribus. Montgomerie of Skelmorlie: Tovt bien ov rien.

TITLES.

ARCHIBALD WILLIAM MONTGOMERIE, Earl of Eglinton and Winton; Lord Montgomerie and Kilwinning, Seton and Tranent, all in the Peerage of Scotland: Baron Ardrossan of Ardrossan, and Earl of Winton, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom: Lord Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of Ayrshire, &c.

CREATIONS.

Lord Montgomerie before 1444; Lord Seton before 1449—both regranted as aftermentioned; Earl of Eglinton, between 3rd and 20th January 1506; regranted, with the title of Lord Montgomerie and the original precedency, by charter dated 24th March 1615, to Alexander the sixth Earl, his brothers Thomas and John Setons, and the heirs-male of their bodies respectively; which failing, to the nearest heirs-male whatever ot Hugh the fifth Earl; Earl of Winton, 16th November 1600—regranted, with the titles of Lord Seton and Tranent, by charter dated 31st July 1686, to the fourth Earl of Winton, with a separate substitution or remainder over to his heirs-male general, which saved the titles to those heirs from the forfeiture of the fifth Earl of Winton in 1716; Lord Kilwinning, 23rd October 1612; Lord Tranent, 31st July 1686—all in the Peerage of Scotland: Baron Ardrossan of Ardrossan, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, by patent dated 15th February 1806, to the heirs-male of the body of Hugh twelfth Earl; Earl of Winton, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, by patent dated 17th June 1859, with limitation to the heirs-male of the body of the thirteenth Earl.

RESIDENCES.

Eglinton Castle; Skelmorlie Castle; The Pavilion, Ardrossan—all in Ayrshire: Cleughearn Lodge, Lanarkshire: 10 St. James' Square, London.

BRANCHES OF THE MONTGOMERIE FAMILY.

I. MONTGOMERIE OF COILSFIELD.

IN THE PARISH OF TARBOLTON.

THE first of this branch was Colonel James Montgomerie, fourth son of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun. Colonel James acquired the estate of Coilsfield from Patrick Houston of that Ilk, in the year 1662. The Colonel was educated at the University of Glasgow, at which he was enrolled in the fourth class on 1st March 1637.[1] Early in life he entered the army, in which he became a colonel. He took an active part in the unhappy civil wars of the seventeenth century, and was throughout a firm supporter of the monarchy, whether against the Scottish Covenanters or the English Parliament. Like his father and his brother Hugh, he incurred the displeasure of the Presbyterians, and according to the Act of Classes, was found disqualified for any official appointment or public employment. By the rescinding of that act, however, all these restraints were removed, and 'on the 17th of December 1650, the Lord 'Montgomery and his brother James, on the Committee of the General Assembly's 'recommendation, were declared capable of public employment, and all acts of restraint 'against them repealed.' Colonel James married, contract dated 1st and 6th June 1659, Margaret, daughter of John Macdonald in Kintyre and Elizabeth Stewart his spouse, who was daughter to the deceased Sir William Stewart, Knight, and Dame Elizabeth Hamiltoun.[2] Colonel James Montgomerie and Margaret Macdonald had two sons and four daughters—

1. Alexander, second of Coilsfield.
2. Hugh, third of Coilsfield.
3. Margaret married John Chalmers of Gadgirth, county of Ayr, and had issue. He

[1] Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis, vol. iii. p. 90.

[2] Original Contract at Eglinton. Wood in his Peerage, states, that Colonel James married the only daughter of Æneas Lord Macdonald and Arros. [Vol. ii. p. 166.] This is a mistake; although Margaret Macdonald appears to have been nearly related to the Lord Macdonnel, who addressed letters to Colonel James as his 'honored Cousin,' apparently through his marriage with Margaret Macdonald.

discharged a part of her portion-natural on 18th December 1688. She was living on 4th December 1717.

4. Mary, married David Kennedy of Kirkmichael, who discharged her provision on 6th February 1697.[1]

5. Elizabeth, married Dunbar of Machrimore.

6. Anna, baptized 20th July 1662,[2] who appears to have died before 17th October 1674, as she is not mentioned as one of her father's executors, in the decree by the Commissary of that date.

Colonel James died in March 1674, and was interred in the New Kirk of Edinburgh on the 18th of that month. The following account of Joseph Stacey, herald, for painting the funeral escutcheon of Colonel James Montgomerie, is still preserved, and is perhaps the only evidence existing of the last resting-place of the gallant Colonel—

'Account for painting Collonel James Montgomery his funeralls, interd in the New Kirk of Edinburgh, March 18, 1674.

'Item for painting and guilding of two Great Lozen armes, with Helmet, Mantling, and Crest foure feet square—
'both is . . . . . 26. 08. 00.

'More for painting upon Buckrum, two Mortt heads, at 20s. a peece, both comes to . . 02. 00. 00.

'More for furnishing from the Merchant chope five ellnes of black bais to sue about the two lozen
'armes, at 24s. ilk ellne—five ellne comes to . . . . . 06. 00. 00.

'More for two elne of blak buckrum to paint the two lozen armes vpon, at 16s. the elne, comes to 01. 12. 00.

'More I furnished two large frames to stent the two lozen armes upon at 26s. a piece, is . 02. 12. 00.

'Soma of all is Theirtty aught pounds twelve shillings Scotts mony.

'Twenty day of March 1674. Reseaved compleat payment of this written accompt from the Lady Coalsfeeld for
'panting worke and other furnishing by me for Collonell James Montgomery his funerall.' . . . 'JOSEPH STACEY.'

Dame Margaret Macdonald, relict of Colonel James, gave up before the Commissary of Glasgow, the inventory of his goods in name and behalf of Hew, Margaret, Mary, and Elizabeth Montgomeries, children of the deceased, in respect of their pupillarity and less age. The Commissary, by his decreet dated 17th October 1674, confirmed the children as executors of their father. The will made by him on 3rd February 1665,[3] appears to have been overlooked.

Major-General Robert Montgomerie was, on 18th October 1675, served tutor-at-law to Alexander, Hugh, Mary and Elizabeth, the unmarried children of his brother, Colonel James.

II. 1. Alexander Montgomerie, second of Coilsfield, succeeded his father, Colonel James, in 1674, and was served heir to him on 5th June 1677.[4] Alexander died unmarried on 3rd March 1679.[5]

[1] Original Discharge at Eglinton.
[2] Record of Baptisms in Edinburgh.
[3] Vol. ii. No. 246, p. 327.
[4] Retour at Eglinton.
[5] Accounts at Eglinton.

II. 2. Hugh Montgomerie, third of Coilsfield, second son of Colonel James, succeeded his brother Alexander on 3rd March 1679, and he was infeft in Coilsfield as heir to his father, Colonel James, on 27th September 1680.[1] Hugh was appointed a captain-lieutenant in the Scots regiment of Dragoons, by commission from William and Mary, dated 27th December 1690. He married first, on 29th April 1693, Jean, second daughter of Sir James Primrose of Carrington, sister of James, first Viscount of Primrose, and by her he had three daughters —

1. Mary, married William Hamilton of Letham. On 19th June 1723, they granted a discharge of her tocher of 12,000 merks. She survived her husband, and died at Edinburgh on 10th August 1763.[2]

2. Eleonora, married, contract dated 28th December 1725, Thomas Garvine of Camcescan, provost of Ayr. By discharge, dated 28th December 1725, Eleonora Montgomerie, second lawful daughter to Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield and Jean Primrose, with consent of Thomas Garvine of Camcescan, provost of Ayr, husband of Eleonora, discharged the sum of £500.[3] She survived her husband, and died at Ayr on 30th October 1782, without issue.

3. Jean, married, first, contract dated 22nd May 1728, Mr. John Burnet, minister at Stair, and had an only son, Hugh, who was a surgeon in London in 1745, and afterwards died abroad without issue, and a daughter, Jean, who was living on 19th May 1733. Jean Montgomerie survived her husband, and married, secondly, contract dated 30th December 1736, Mr. John M'Dermeit, minister at Ayr, whom she survived. She was living in 1745.

It is probably Jean Primrose, Lady Coilsfield, to whom Wodrow refers in the following account in his Analecta:

'My wife tells me a pretty remarkable account she had from Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie 'his lady, of an intimate acquaintance and relation, perhaps, of hers, the Lady Coilsfield. That 'lady had born two or three daughters, and was sinfully anxious after a son, to heir the estate of 'Coilsfield. She bore a fourth daughter, and when next with child, she was extremely concerned 'that it should be a son; and declared to my wife's informer, that she would be content to dye 'in labour, providing it wer a son, and safe brought forth! She warned her against this, and 'advised her resignation. She adhered positively in saying she would willingly dye to have a 'son alive. The Lady Coilsfield was at Edinburgh in time of her labour, when she brought forth 'a son; on which she was overjoyed, and caused write by post to Lady Craigy to buy her a 'rich stuffe for a night gown to sitt up in, and a toilet, and all kind of implements for the bap-'tisme of her son, and cloaths, &c. for him. The letter came full of fondness for her son; but

[1] Coilsfield Writs. [2] Scots Magazine, vol. xxv. 415. [3] Original among Coilsfield Writs at Eglinton.

'in two posts all was stoped by another post, for the child died suddenly; and, which one needs 'not wonder at, though in this case it looks like a punishment, in a day or two the mother fell 'into a high feaver, not above eight or ten days after her delivery, and died also! This is a 'certaine and awfull instance of retribution in this life, and God's granting a desire, not in 'mercy, and punishing rash wishes."[1]

Hugh married, secondly, Katherine Arbuckle, widow of John Hamilton of Letham, a lady of great beauty. Their contract of marriage is dated 10th September 1708.[2] By her he had one son and apparently four daughters —

5. Alexander, who succeeded him.

6. Barbara Montgomerie, who as 'Barbara Lady Lyle,' granted a discharge to Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, dated 23rd December 1736.[3]

7. Christian Montgomerie, widow of James Pringle, brother-german to John Hoppringle of that Ilk, granted a discharge to Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, dated 7th November 1734.[4]

8. Margaret Montgomerie. She married Mr. John Hamilton, merchant in Jamaica, brother of Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill; of this marriage John Hamilton of Sundrum was descended. A contract of marriage was entered into between Margaret and her husband, John Hamilton, dated 20th March 1739, which refers to their previous marriage without a contract.[5] By disposition, dated 14th July 1742, Katherine Arbuckle, her mother, left her the sum of 500 merks Scots. Margaret survived her husband, and died at London on 6th July 1759.

9. Katherine Montgomerie. She granted discharges to her brother Alexander, dated 6th December 1739, and 6th August 1742.[6] By disposition, dated 14th July 1742, Katherine Arbuckle, her mother, left her 1000 merks Scots, with her gold watch, best diamond ring, and her black 'podosay' gown. She was living in February 1789, as in a letter from her nephew Alexander of that date, he says, 'We are anxious to hear of 'Aunt Kate.'[7] She is said to have died unmarried.

Katherine Arbuckle survived her husband. By disposition, dated 14th July 1742, she constituted her son, Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, her sole executor.

On the death of Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglinton, in February 1729, Susanna, Countess-Dowager, writes, on the 23rd March of that year, that Colonel John Montgomerie (of Giffen) and Coilsfield were to be called as tutors to her son, as nearest in blood.[8]

[1] Analecta, iii. 293-4.
[2] Original at Eglinton in duplicate.
[3] Original at Eglinton.
[4] Original at Eglinton.
[5] Ibid.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Ibid.
[8] Letter from the Countess at Salton.

Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield granted a disposition also in favour of his eldest son, Alexander. Hugh appears to have died soon afterwards.

III. Alexander Montgomerie, fourth of Coilsfield. His father, Hugh, writes to him from Coilsfield on 12th January 1731 — 'I am glad to hear by yours that the 'Town will soon be too hot. Sudden may it be, and be you thankfull that you have 'a sweet and pleasant air to come home, where you are sure to be made welcome by 'me, your mother and sisters. Having now resolved to take yourself to a pleasant 'country gentlemany life of improving your own ground, which I think much better 'than fighting for your neighbours, I hope that motive of improving will excite you soon 'to leave Edinburgh — the sooner the better for us all, and therefore will not insist fur-'der, leaving you to the protection and direction of our great God.'[1] He married Lilias, eldest daughter and heiress of Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Baronet. Their contract of marriage is dated 11th June 1735, and they were married the same day.[2] By her he had six sons and five daughters —

1. Hugh succeeded his father and mother in Coilsfield and Skelmorlie, and became twelfth Earl of Eglinton.

2. Robert, who was baptized on 8th February 1741.[3] He died before 22nd August 1752.[4]

3. Alexander of Annick Lodge. [*Vide* Annick Lodge Branch].

4. Thomas, who was baptized on 2nd March 1746.[5] He emigrated to Dumfries in Virginia before the year 1786, but did not relish America, as two years later, on 19th October 1788, he writes to his eldest brother — 'This is not the country for raising a 'fortune. Never was a poor devil so badly situated as I have been. If I had a son, I 'would sooner cut his throat than send him to America. But as my bed is made, so 'must I lay me down.'[6] Thomas was more successful than he had expected, as he appears from his will to have acquired considerable property. This will was made on 8th April 1792, appointing his brother Alexander his sole executor in Britain, and was proved in a court held in Prince William County, Virginia, on 3rd September 1792, Thomas having died at Dumfries, Virginia, on 13th August, unmarried.

5. Archibald, who was born on 3rd and baptized on 6th June 1751.[7] He was in the

[1] Contemporary Copy at Eglinton.

[2] Original at Eglinton, and Coilsfield Family Bible there.

[3] Tarbolton Parish Record.

[4] Discharge by Lilias Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and Bond of Provision by Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, her husband, 1752. [Coilsfield Writs.]

[5] Tarbolton Parish Record.

[6] Original Letter at Eglinton.

[7] Tarbolton Parish Record.

Civil Service of the East India Company, and acquired Stair and Belmont. He married Maria, daughter of . . . Chantry, Esq., and had issue four sons—1. Alexander, who was an officer in the Bengal Native Cavalry, and died without issue. 2. Archibald, who was an officer in the Bengal Native Infantry, and died without issue. 3. William; who was in the Madras Civil Service, and died without issue. 4. Edmund, in the Bombay Civil Service; married, in 1829, a daughter of General Sullivan, and has no issue. By codicil dated 10th August 1817, Hugh Earl of Eglinton granted an annuity of £300 to the wife of his brother Archibald, on account of his regard for them.[1]

6. James, who was born on the 26th and baptized on 27th February 1755.[2] He entered the army, and rose to the rank of lieutenant-general. He was colonel of the 74th regiment, and afterwards of the 30th. The General was some time Governor of Dominica, and afterwards commanded in the western district of Scotland. He was member of Parliament for Ayrshire for several years. He married in 1810, Harriet-Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Jackson of Westbury, county of Gloucester. He died without issue, 13th April 1829, and was buried at Great Malvern, beside his brother Alexander.

[1] Original Codicil at Eglinton.

[2] Tarbolton Parish Record.

7. Frances, born on 18th and baptized on 20th September 1736.[1] She married in 1798, James Ritchie of Busbie, and died at Craigton, near Glasgow, on 30th January 1763.

8. Katharine was born and baptized 30th July 1737.[2] By disposition, dated 14th July 1742, 'Miss Katy Montgomery,' grandchild of Katherine Arbuckle, was provided by the latter to 500 merks.

9. Lilias, born 12th February 1743,[3] married John Hamilton of Sundrum, and had issue.

10. Margaret, baptized on 10th December 1748.[4] She married, contract dated 4th July 1769, John Hamilton of Bargany, and died without issue.

11. Anne was born on 6th and baptized on 9th February 1761.[5]

Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield died on 28th December 1783, and Lilias, his wife, died at Coilsfield on the 18th of the preceding month, and was succeeded in Skelmorlie by her eldest son, Hugh, afterwards 12th Earl of Eglinton.[6]

[1] Tarbolton Parish Record, and Coilsfield Family Bible at Eglinton.
[2] Ibid.
[3] Coilsfield Bible.
[4] Tarbolton Records.
[5] Ibid., and Coilsfield Bible.
[6] The estate of Coilsfield was sold some years ago.

Armorial Bearings.

Patent of Arms to Colonel James Montgomerie, 1673.

On 25th February 1673, Colonel James Montgomerie, first of Coilsfield, obtained from the Lord Lyon the following patent of arms: 'To all and sundrie whom it effeirs, I Sir Charles 'Araskine of Cambo, Knight Baronet, Lyon King of Armes, considering that be the tuentie one 'act of the third session of the second parliament of our dread Soveraigne Lord Charles the 'Second, be the grace of God King of Scotland, England, France, and Ireland, Defender of the 'Faith, I am impowered to visit the wholl armes of noblemen, prelats, barons, and gentlemen 'within this kingdome, and to distinguish them with congruent differences, and to matriculat the 'same in my books and registers, and to give armes to vertuous and weell deserving persons, and 'extracts of all armes expressing the blazoning of the armes under my hand and seall of office; 'which register is therby ordained to be respected as the true and unrepealable rule of all armes 'and bearings in Scotland, to remaine with the Lyon's office as a publicit register of the king-'dome: Therfore, conforme to the tenor of the said Act of Parliament, I testifie and make 'knowen, that the coat armour appertaining and belonging to the Honorable Colonell James Mont-'gomerie of Colsfield, second son of the Earl of Eglingtone, and approven of and confirmed be 'me to him, is matriculat in my said publicit register vpon the day and dait of thir presents, 'and is thus blazoned, viz. — The Honorable Colonell James Montgomerie of Colsfield, for his 'atchievement and ensigne armoriall, bears two coats quarterlie, first and last azure, three flower 'de luces Or; second and third gules, three annulets Or, stoned azure; all within a bordur 'of the second, counter flowred as the third, differenced with ane crescent in the midle fess: 'Above the shield, his helmet, mantled gules, doubled argent: Next is placed on ane torse, for 'his crest, ane lady or pictur of Hope, holding ane anchor in her dexter hand, and in her 'sinister, ane savage head by the hair, coupie proper: And for his motto, in ane escroll 'above the crest, Garde bine: Which coat above blazoned, I declare to be the said Colonell 'James Montgomerie his true and unrepealable coat and bearing for ever. In testimonie wherof 'I have subscryved this extract with my hand, and have caused append my seale of office therto. 'Given at Edinburgh the tuentie fyft day of Fevruary, and of our said Soveraigne Lord's reigne 'the tuentie fyft year, 1673.

'Ch. Araskine, Lyon.'

II. MONTGOMERIE OF ANNICK LODGE,

IN THE PARISH OF DREGHORN.

I. The first of this branch was Alexander Montgomerie, the second surviving son of

Alexander Montgomerie of Skelmorlie and Coilsfield, and Lillias Montgomerie, heiress of Skelmorlie, born on 26th May 1744.[1] He was a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, but afterwards entered the naval service of the East India Company, and there acquired distinction as an able officer. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. John Taylor of the East India Company's Service, by whom he had nine children —

1. William Eglinton of Annick Lodge.
2. Alexander, born 30th July, and baptized 5th August 1790.[2] He is a rear-admiral in the Royal Navy. Unmarried.
3. Hugh, born on 10th and baptized 15th May 1792.[3] He was a judge in the Madras Presidency. He married Jane, daughter of Lieutenant-General Rumley, East India Company's Service, and has no issue.
4. Thomas, twin with Charlotte, born 23rd and baptized 27th July 1796.[4] He was a captain in the East India Company's Bengal Service. He died unmarried at Calcutta in April 1819. Lord Hastings, in intimating his death, wrote on 20th April 1819 to Lord Eglinton, that a more amiable or promising young man he never saw. His loss was deeply felt by him, and the regret at his fate was universal.
5. Archibald, born 21st September 1799.[5] He died unmarried at Ceylon in 1821.
6. Elizabeth; married, in December 1804, David Boyle of Shewalton, afterwards Lord Justice-General of Scotland, and died 14th April 1822, having had issue —

[1] Coilsfield Family Bible. [2] Dreghorn Parish Records. [3] Ibid. [4] Ibid. [5] Ibid.

1. Patrick of Shewalton, born in 1806. He married, in 1830, Mary Frances, daughter of Sir Robert Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone of Logie Elphinstone, Baronet, and has issue, three sons and three daughters.
2. Elizabeth, married in 1828, James Hope, W. S., D. K. S., and has issue, three sons and three daughters.
3. Helen, married in 1829, Charles Fergusson, younger of Kilkerran, afterwards Sir Charles Dalrymple Fergusson of Kilkerran and Hailes, Baronet, and had issue, three sons and six daughters.
4. Alexander, born 1810; married Agnes, daughter of James Walker, C. E., London, and has a large family.
5. John, married Jane, daughter of Theodore Walrond of Calder Park, near Glasgow, and has issue.
6. William, major in the army; married Louisa, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Parsons, and has issue.
7. Archibald Thomas, an advocate at the Scotch Bar.
8. Augusta, and 9. Eleonora — unmarried.

7. Hamilla, married, in January 1816, Alexander West Hamilton of Pinmore, who died in 1837. She died in 1852. They had one son, Hugh, now of Pinmore, who married Selina, daughter of George L'Estrange, and seven daughters — 1. Elizabeth, married Captain Harry Vincent, H.E.I.C.S., and died leaving one son. 2. Lilias. 3. Mary. 4. Joanna. 5. Charlotte, married Rev. Henry Hunt, and has issue. 6. Jane. 7. Helen.
8. Charlotte, twin with Thomas, born on 23rd and baptized 27th July 1796.[1] She married, 16th February 1826, the Rev. Thomas Proctor, who died in 1836, and had issue, two sons and one daughter — 1. Rev. Thomas; 2. Archibald, married, and had issue. Killed in the Indian mutiny, 1857.
9. Frances, baptized 6th October 1801.[2] Died unmarried in 1858.

Alexander Montgomerie, first of Annick Lodge, died at Great Malvern, 8th July 1802. Elizabeth, his wife, died in 1839.

II. William Eglinton Montgomerie, second of Annick Lodge, succeeded his father in 1802. He was lieutenant-colonel of the Ayrshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant of Ayrshire. On the death of Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglinton, in 1819, he became the nearest heir-male of the present Earl of Eglinton, and entitled to be his tutor-at-law during minority; but resigned his right to that

[1] Dreghorn Parish Records. [2] Ibid.

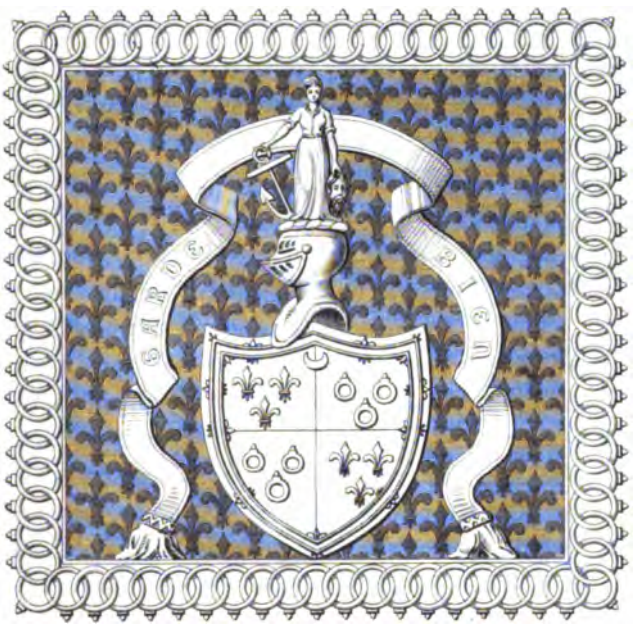
office in favour of Lady Jane Montgomerie and other tutors nominate. He married at Shieldhall, on 7th January 1824, Susanna-Fraser, daughter of John Anderson, merchant, London, by whom he had issue —

1. Alexander, now of Annick Lodge.
2. John-Eglinton, born at Dankeith on 23rd December 1825, who entered the naval service in 1840. He was present at the capture of the Imperial Chinese camps at Shanghai, in April 1854, and assisted at the destruction of a large body of pirates at Coulan in the Island of Tylon, in November 1854. In a letter to the Admiralty, Rear-Admiral Sir James Stirling, commander-in-chief, refers in terms of high commendation to Lieutenant Montgomerie. Captain O'Callaghan wrote, in November 1854, that 'Lieutenant Montgomerie, senior lieutenant of my 'own ship, is an officer in whom I can place the greatest confidence, and I 'selected him in consequence for the peculiar and difficult duty of searching for 'the pirates at Coulan, in the execution of which there was so much danger of 'the innocent suffering. I also, when I thought it was my duty to quit my ship, 'felt at my ease, knowing he was on board.' Lieutenant Montgomerie rose to the rank of commander in 1855, when he was appointed to H. M. Ship Rapid. Commander Montgomerie was appointed to H. M. Sloop Arachne in 1859. He is the author of a vocabulary of the dialects of the Indians in the neighbourhood of the Columbia River and Puget's Sound, 8vo. 1848.
3. William, born 17th March 1827, and died on 1st May 1829.
4. Roger, born on 22nd October 1828, graduated B.A. at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1851, and M.A. in 1854. He became an advocate at the Scotch Bar in 1852.
5. Thomas George, born on 22nd April 1830, a captain in the Bengal Engineers. He obtained the Pollock Prize, a valuable gold medal, presented by the British inhabitants of Calcutta to the most distinguished cadet of the season, at the Addiscombe Military Seminary in 1849. Captain Montgomerie was elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1859.
6. & 7. Twins, born in August 1831, and both died young.
8. Archibald William, born 14th October 1838, an officer in the Royal Artillery.
9. Susanna-Anderson.
10. Elizabeth.
11. Mary.

William Eglinton Montgomerie died on 14th June 1852.

III. ALEXANDER MONTGOMERIE, now of Annick Lodge, born on 10th November 1824, was an officer in the 10th Regiment of Foot, served with it in the Sutledg campaign in 1845 and 1846, including the battle of Sobraon, and is now a captain in the army.

Armorial Bearings.



Shield: Quarterly, first and fourth, az. three fleurs de lis, Or, for Montgomerie; second and third, Gules, three annulets, Or, stonned az. for Eglinton, all within a bordure, Or, charged with a double tressure, flowered and counter-flowered gules, with a crescent in chief as the difference for a younger son.

Crest: A lady dressed in ancient apparel, azure, holding in her dexter hand an anchor, and in her sinister, the head of a savage, couped.

Motto: 'Garde bien.'

III. MONTGOMERIE OF SKELMORLIE,

IN THE PARISH OF LARGS.

THIS ancient Branch of the Montgomeries came off the main line, in the person of George Montgomerie, second son of Alexander, the first Lord Montgomerie, about the middle of the fifteenth century. From that time till the middle of the eighteenth century, the succession was in the direct male line. On the failure of the male line, the estate was inherited by an heiress, who carried it, on her marriage, to her kinsman of Coilsfield. From that marriage the present Earl of Eglinton is descended, and inherits the estate of Skelmorlie.

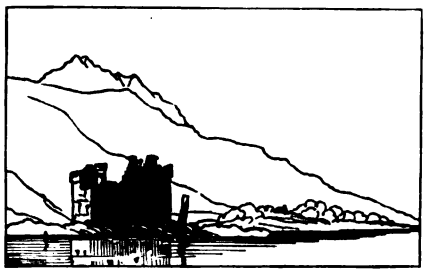
I. GEORGE MONTGOMERIE, first of Skelmorlie. Alexander of Montgomerie, Knight, Lord of Ardrossan, granted a charter of the west part of his lands of Skelmorlie, in the barony of Cuninghame, to his beloved son, George of Montgomerie and his heirs. This charter is dated at the Castle of Ardrossane, on the 13th of January 1461.[1] George Montgomerie had previously obtained from his father the lands of Lochlebosyde and Hartfield, in the barony of Renfrew, by two charters, the first dated at Ardrossan on the 1st November 1453, and the second at Lochlebosyde, on the 16th of June 1461. The lands of Lochlebosyde first came into the Eglinton family by a grant from King Robert II. to Hugh de Eglinton, Knight, and Egidia his spouse, sister of the King, dated 12th October 1375. George Montgomerie married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Houstoun of that Ilk, and died before 11th February 1506, leaving issue —

1. John, his successor.

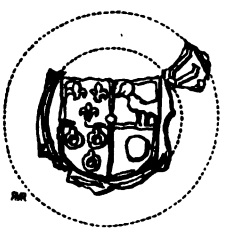
2. Robert, who is designated 'frater germanus Johannis Montgomerie de Skelmorlie,' in a precept of clare constat by John Lord Ross for infefting Thomas Ralston of that Ilk in several lands, dated in 1505.

[1] Skelmorlie Writs.

II. JOHN MONTGOMERIE, second of Skelmorlie. On 11th February 1506, 'Hugh of 'Muntgumbry, Knight, Lord of Ardrossane 'and Lochlebosid,' granted a charter to his beloved cousin 'John Muntgumry' of Skelmorlie, son and heir of the late George Muntgumry of Skelmorlie, of the lands of Lochlebosyde;'[1] and on 19th August 1507, Hew Earl of Eglinton, as superior of Skelmorlie, granted a precept for infefting his beloved cousin, John Montgomery, son of the late George Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, in those lands.[2] John Montgomerie married before 20th of July 1505, Marion Dawzel, as appears by an assignation of that date in their favour by Matthew Earl of Lennox.[3] John Montgomerie witnessed a charter by Matthew Earl of Lennox, of the lands of Dreghorn, dated 22nd June 1507. He died before 17th February 1508, and was succeeded by his son —



III. CUTHBERT MONTGOMERIE, third of Skelmorlie, was infeft in Skelmorlie on 26th February 1508, as heir of John Montgomerie his father, on a precept granted by Hew Earl of Eglintoun, the superior, dated the 17th of the same month.[4] He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Patrick Houstoun of Houstoun, by whom he had two sons —



George, his successor, and Alexander of Portray.

Cuthbert was slain at Flodden on the 9th of September 1513.

IV. GEORGE MONTGOMERIE, fourth of Skelmorlie, was under age when he succeeded his father. He was one of the assize on the trial of Patrick and Adam Colquhoun, brothers of the Laird of Luss, for the slaughter of William Stirling of Glorat, on 20th July 1535.[5] In 1541, he purchased the lands of Capelrig from John Muir of Caldwell.[6] Balfour, referring to this laird of Skelmorlie, states,[7] that in 1545, 'the 'Frenche King sends 5000 soldiers, under the command of George Montgomerey of 'Largges, to Scotland.' Hew, second Earl of Eglintoun assigned, on 18th February 1545, to George the non-entry and relief of the lands of Skelmorlie, Lochransay,

[1] Skelmorlie Writs.
[2] Vol. ii. No. 80, p. 65.
[3] Skelmorlie Writs.
[4] Ibid.
[5] Criminal Trials, vol. i. p. 170.*
[6] Skelmorlie Writs.
[7] Annals, vol. i. p. 284.

Sannok, and Lochlibosyde.[1] George married Lady Catharine Montgomerie, eighth and youngest daughter of Hew, first Earl of Eglintoun, by whom he had several sons and daughters, who are mentioned, but not by name, in a contract dated 18th August 1562.[2] The eldest and second sons were —

Thomas, his successor, and Robert, who succeeded his brother.

George died before 1561, and was succeeded by his elder son —

V. 1. THOMAS MONTGOMERIE, fifth of Skelmorlie, who was incapable of managing his own affairs. His brother Robert was appointed tutor to him in 1561. Thomas received, on 18th August 1562, from Hew, third Earl of Eglintoun, a precept for infefting him as heir of George his father, in Skelmorlie and other lands.[3] He died unmarried on the 16th October 1566, and was succeeded by his brother —

V. 2. ROBERT MONTGOMERIE, sixth of Skelmorlie, who was appointed tutor to his brother Thomas in 1561; and on the 18th of August following entered into a contract with Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, which narrates that Thomas Montgomerie, then of Skelmorlie, at the pleasure of God, was vexit with 'franessy and is nocht perfyte in his wittis, nor competent in himself, and swa can nocht rewile nor gowarne himself;' therefore the Earl agrees to infeft Robert as tutor in the lands of Skelmorlie, Lochransay, Synnock, and Lochlibochside: Robert agrees to make the house of Lochransay in Arran be patent to the Earl and his friends when hunting there, and to furnish all necessary supplies of food.[4] He was served heir of his brother Thomas on 5th and 7th November 1566; and from the retour it appears that Thomas had been dead for twenty-two days. He entered into a bond of manrent with Lord Sempill, on 29th February 1572. He took a prominent part in the long-standing feud between the families of Eglintoun and Glencairn, and is even said to have slain Alexander Cuninghame, commendator of Kilwinning, son of Alexander Earl of Glencairn, in March 1582. The Maxwells of Newark, whose mother was a Cuninghame of Craigends, were also concerned in this quarrel. In January 1583, a conflict took place between the Montgomeries of Skelmorlie and the Maxwells of Newark, in which Patrick Maxwell of Stainlie and others were slain, besides many wounded on both sides. In April of the same year, another rencontre took place with the Maxwells, in which Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and William his eldest son, were both slain by Patrick Maxwell of Newark. These slaughters were at various times brought before the criminal courts, but no trials seem to have resulted. This Laird of Skelmorlie mar-

[1] Skelmorlie Writs [2] Vol. ii. No. 167, p. 190. [3] Skelmorlie Writs. [4] Vol. ii. No. 167, p. 190.

ried, before 20th May 1567, Dorothy, daughter of Robert Lord Sempill. On that date they had a charter from Hew, third Earl of Eglintoun, of the lands of Lochlibosyde.[1] Dorothy Sempill died before 2nd July 1600. They had four sons and four daughters—

1. William, who was slain, as already stated.

2. Robert, who succeeded his father.

3. John, who witnessed a contract of his brother Robert, dated 18th February 1606. He died without issue.[2]

4. George, who also witnessed the same contract. He married, contract dated 20th January 1614, Agnes, daughter of Adam Montgomerie of Makbiehill, merchant-burgess of Edinburgh, and relict of Thomas Baxter, servitor to the king.[3] George and Agnes Montgomerie had five sons—1. George, baptized 15th October 1615.[4] He died young, as another son was also named George. 2. William, baptized 10th May 1618. William Montgomerie, son lawful to the deceased George Montgomerie, brother german to the Laird of Skelmorlie, granted on 14th February 1655, to Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, a discharge for 7000 merks Scots. William married . . . Adamson, by whom he had a son, William, who died without issue.[5] 3. Alexander, who married Ann, daughter of John Hamilton of Boghall, by whom he had Alexander Montgomerie of Kirktonholme, who married Janet, daughter of Walter Corbet of Tollcross, by whom he had issue, Walter Montgomerie of Kirktonholme, and a daughter, Margaret, married to Alexander Montgomerie of Asslos, and had issue.[6] Alexander died before 9th February 1650, on which date his will was confirmed in the Commissary Court, Edinburgh. 4. Robert, baptized 21st July 1625. 5. George, baptized 18th August 1633.[7]

George Montgomerie was probably the father of 'Hew Montgomerie, cousin german' to Sir Robert Montgomerie, deceased, who witnessed a discharge by Henry Montgomerie, brother to the Laird of Skelmorlie, on 18th December 1661.

5. Elizabeth, who married William Cochrane of that Ilk, ancestor of the Earls of Dundonald, before 11th July 1579, on which date William granted a discharge for £1000 of the tocher.[8] Her will was confirmed in the Commissary Court, Edinburgh, on 1st August 1595.

6. Mary. 7. Margaret. 8. Jean. These three daughters raised, on 2nd November 1586, a summons against James Earl of Glencairn, for certain monies lent to him by the late Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, their father, to whose escheit goods they

[1] Skelmorlie Writs.
[2] Broomlands MS.
[3] Skelmorlie Writs.
[4] Register of Baptisms in City of Edinburgh.
[5] Broomlands MS.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Register of Baptisms in City of Edinburgh.
[8] Skelmorlie Writs.

acquired right.[1] Jean married, in 1595, Robert, eldest son of Archibald Boyd of Portincross. By the marriage contract, Robert Boyd, junior, is bound to infeft Jeane Montgomerie, his wife, in liferent, in his lands of Knokindaill and half mains of Eleintoun; and Robert Montgomerie is bound to pay to Robert Boyd 2000 merks of tocher for his sister.

The following Will, made by Jean Montgomerie, shows her family by her husband Robert Boyd, and the disposition of her personal estate: She died in December 1621, and her will was confirmed to her executor by the Commissary of Glasgow on 21st October 1623 —

At Portincors, the xix day of December, the zeir of God, J^{M} Vj^{c} and twentie ane zeiris: The quhilk day Jean Montgomerie nominat Robert Boyd of Portincors, hir husband, executour. Item, my will (is) and I ordane my husband to help our bairnes, Nans, Elspeth, and Barbara Boydis, eftir this maner — viz., To Nans, viij^{c} merkis, to Elspeth, vij^{c} merkis, and to Barbara, fyve hundrith merkis; and to our eldest sone, Robert, ane hundrith merkis and ane broune naig; to George, thrie hundrith merkis; to Archibald, thrie hundrith merkis; to Gavin, thrie hundrith merkis, and to James, thrie hundrith merkis. And farder, I requeist my husband, for the love that hes bein betwixt my husband and me, and for the favour he beiris to our bairnes, abonewrittin, to give the thrid pairt of the movabill guidis and geir that apperteins to ws, to be equallie devydit amangis our four youngest sones, George, Archibald, Williame, (?) and James; and our thrie dochteris, Nans, Elspeth, and Barbara Boydis. And I leif my brother, Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and George Montgomerie, our brother, to be oursearis to my bairnes; and ordanes thame with my husband, to gif the portioun that is left to ony of my dochteris to the rest of our bairnes, incaice, as God forbid, ony of thame abuis thair bodeys in harlotrie. To the quhilk legacie, the said Robert Boyd of Portincors hes willinglie condescendit and agreit, and bindis and obleiss him, his airis, executouris, assignayis, and guidis and geir, and intrometteris thairwith, to fulfill and perfyte everie poynt thairof, as is abonewrittin. In witnesing quhairof, thir presentis, writtin be me, Mr. Johnne Harper, minister at Kilbryd, ar subscryvit be the said Jeane Montgomerie and Robert Boyd, spoussis, at Portincors, the xix day of December 1621 yeiris, befoir thir witnessis, Robert Muir and Archibald Dunlope, servitouris to the said Robert, and Johnne Lowrie, writer, and me, the said Mr. Johnne. Sic subscrib^{r}. Jeane Montgomerie, Robert Boyd of Portincors, Mr. Johnne Harper, witnes.[2]

Robert Montgomerie died in April 1584, and was succeeded by his eldest son —

[1] Original Summons among Skelmorlie Writs.

[2] Glasgow Commissary Records. Extracts from these Records were obligingly communicated to the Editor by John Fullarton, Esq. of Overtoun.

VI. Sir ROBERT MONTGOMERIE, seventh of Skelmorlie, a man of great courage, which he found frequent opportunities of displaying in the feud between the Montgomeries and Cuninghames, in his time at its height. It appears, from a 'pleasant story' narrated in Crawfurd's Manuscript Genealogy,[1] that he paid a visit to Newark Castle, the residence of the Maxwell who had slain his father and brother, and with whom, of course, he was at 'deadly feid.' The Baron of Skelmorlie, the object of whose visit is involved in mystery, found himself necessitated to hide in a small closet or turret of the castle.

Newark discovered his hiding-place; and far from resenting this intrusion, called out, 'Robin, come down to me, who has done you so good a turn as make you 'young Laird and old Laird of Skelmorlie in one day.' The invitation was accepted, and Newark and Skelmorlie became reconciled on the occasion. He is, nevertheless, said to have 'set no bounds to his feudal wrath, but indulged in it with 'such eagerness as to occasion very much bloodshed of his enemies. For this he was 'afterwards seized with remorse, and in expiation performed many acts of charity and 'mortification in his latter days.' This laird acquired the lands of Bourtreehill from William Lyn in 1597, and in 1606 he entered into a contract with Hew, fifth Earl of Eglinton, whereby the Earl agrees to erect Skelmorlie, and the other lands then belonging to the laird, into the tenandry of Skelmorlie, and the tower thereof to be the principal messuage. The reasons for granting this favour are set forth in the contract in these terms —

'The said nobill Erle remembering and calling to mynd the guid, trew and thankfull service 'done to him and his nobill progenitouris be the said Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie and his 'predecessouris past memorie of man; and to gif the better occasioun to him and his succes-'souris to continew in all tyme cuming in the lyk thanfull and faythfull service to the said 'nobill Erle, his airis and successouris; and for the singular respect quhilk the said nobill Erle 'hes and beris to the weill and standing of the foirsaid hous of Skelmorlie,' &c.[2]

This new tenandry was confirmed by Crown charter in 1607.[3]. Robert Montgomerie was knighted by James VI., and created a baronet by Charles I. by patent, dated 1st January 1628, being the seventeenth created by that King.[4] In 1636, he built a magnificent aisle at the Old Church of Largs, a minute description of which has been given

[1] Advocates' Library.
[2] Skelmorlie Writs.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Crawfurd's Renfrewshire, p. 174.

by Mr. William Dobie, in his account of the Parish Churches and Burying-grounds of Ayrshire.[1] Wodrow says, that 'Sir Robert was a man mighty in prayer, and much at 'it, but very short at a time. He would have left company, when in his house, fre- 'quently in a little time, and retired a little to his closett, as if it had been to look at a 'paper, and it was knouen it was for prayer.'[2] He married, contract dated 13th November 1593, Margaret, daughter of Sir William Douglas of Drumlanrig, with whom he got a tocher of 7000 merks. This lady's beauty is the subject of two sonnets by Alexander Montgomerie, author of 'The Cherrie and the Slae.' The sonnets are addressed 'To M. D.' 'for Skelmurley,' and commence 'Sweet Philomene.' This lady died in 1624, and was buried in the aisle erected by her husband, upon which the following lines are inscribed —

Bis duo, bisque decem transegi virginis annos;
Ter duo terque decem consociata viro,
Et bis opem Lucina tulit. Mas patris imago;
Spesque domus superest: Femina jussa mori.
Clara genus generosa, animi speciosa decorè
Chara Deo vixi, nunc mihi cuncta Deus.

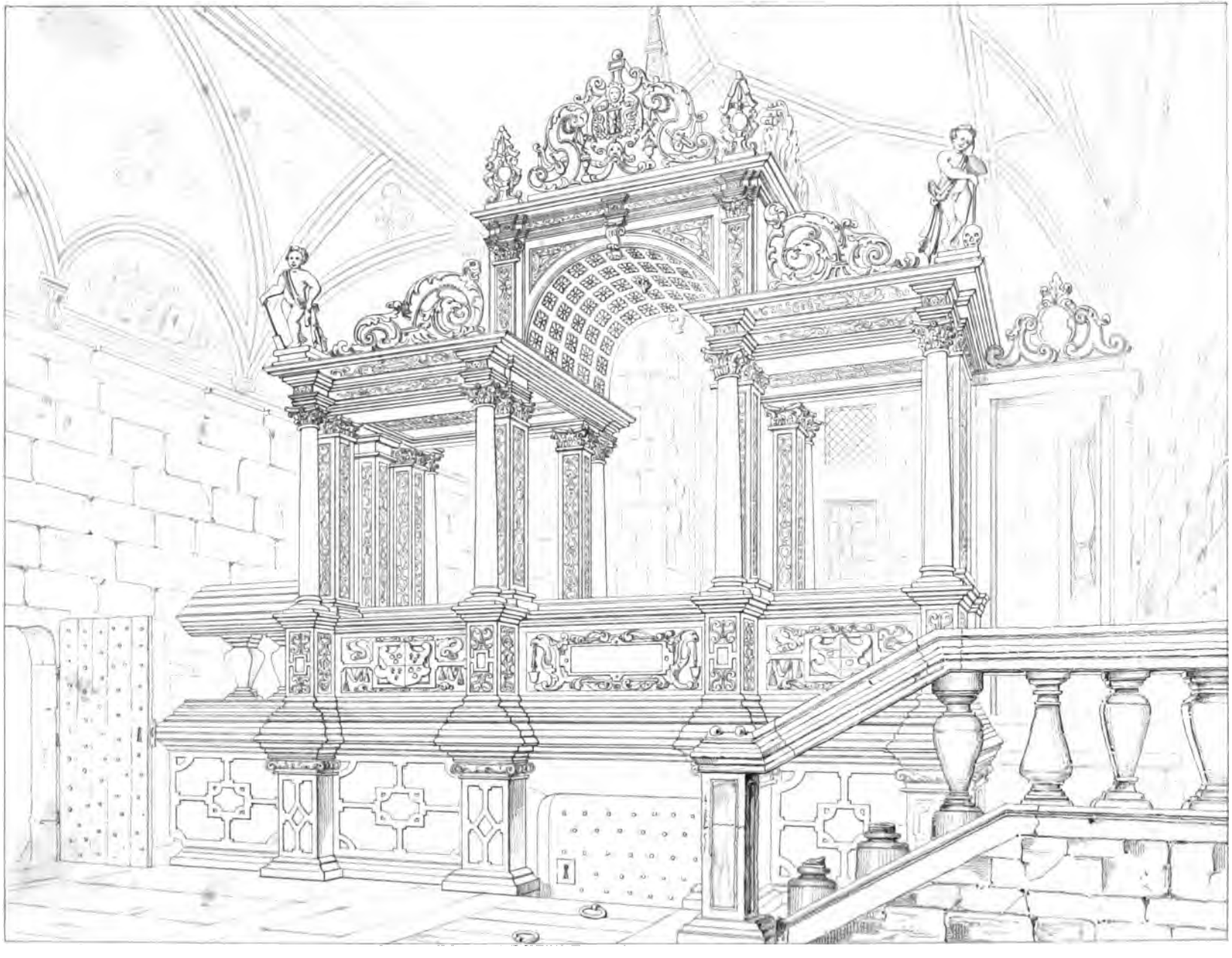
By this lady he had issue —

1. Robert, who succeeded.
2. A daughter who died unmarried.

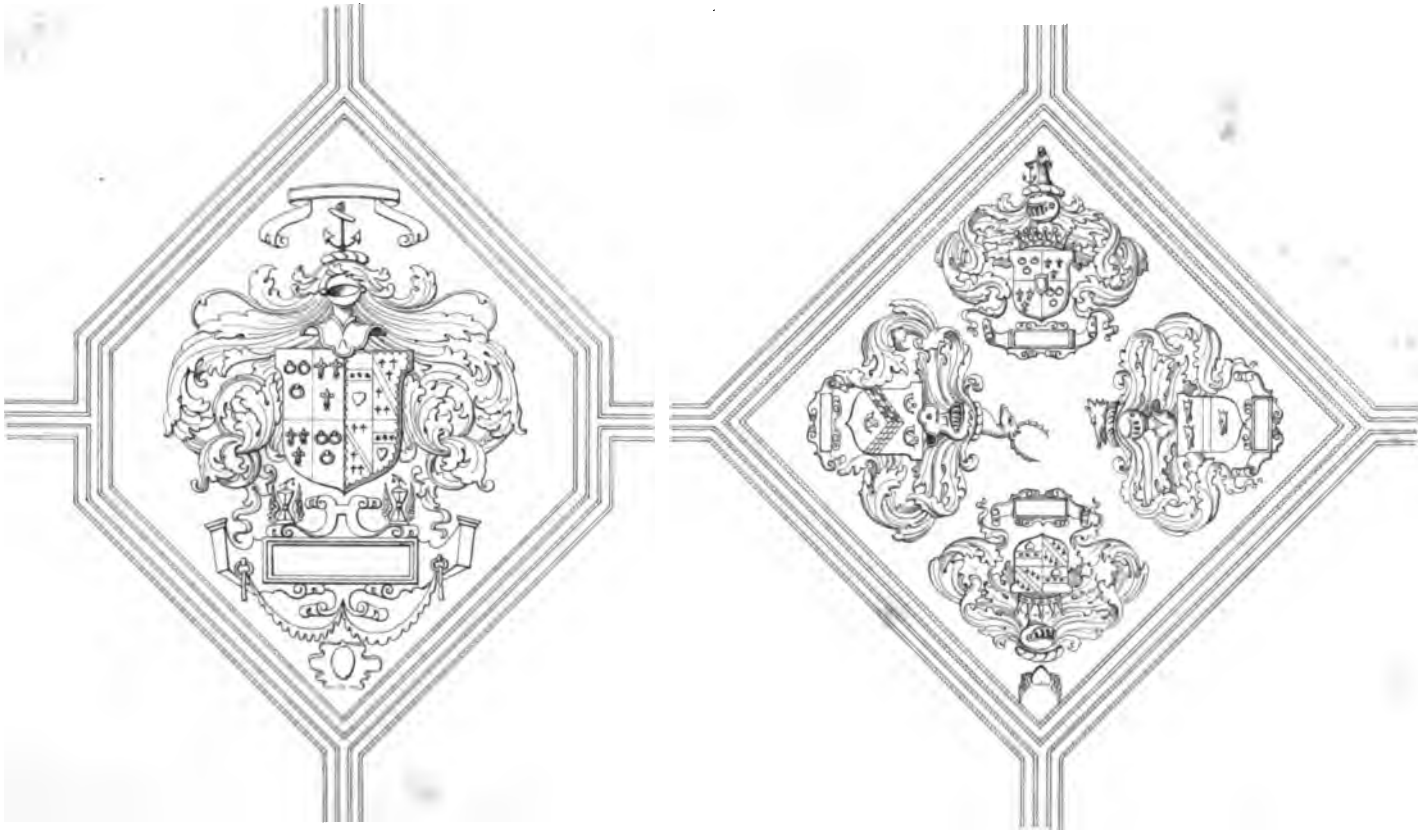
Sir Robert died in 1651, having enjoyed the estate of Skelmorlie during the long period of sixty-seven years.

VII. Sir ROBERT MONTGOMERIE, eighth of Skelmorlie, second Baronet, got from his father the lands of Lochransay. He was knighted by the Duke of Lennox when High Commissioner to the Parliament of Scotland in 1607.[3] During his father's lifetime, he was designated Sir Robert Montgomerie of Lochransay, Knight. He married, contract dated 23rd August 1617, Lady Mary Campbell, youngest daughter of Archibald Earl of Argyle. Sir Robert Montgomerie, elder, bound himself to infeft his son and his wife in the tenandry of Skelmorlie, and he subsequently, in 1642, granted charters in their favour. Sir Robert was also put in possession by his father of the lands of Ormesheuch and Bourtreehill in the following year. He was admitted a burgess of Culross on 25th June 1638.[4] In the testament of Margaret Cock, relict of umquhile Colin Campbell of Largs, who died in 1647, mention is made of 'Sir Robert Mont-

[1] Glasgow, 1847, 4to, p. 9.
[2] Analecta, i. 372.
[3] Balfour's Tracts, 1837, p. 68.
[4] Act of Admission — Skelmorlie Writs.



BURYING PLACE OF MONTGOMERIE OF SKELMORLIE.



ARMS ON THE ROOF OF THE BURYING PLACE OF MONTGOMERIE OF SKELMORLIE.

'gomerie of Skelmorlie, Knight, elder, and Sir Robert Montgomerie of Lochransay, 'Knight.' Sir Robert succeeded his father in Skelmorlie and the baronetcy in 1651, but he enjoyed them only for a few years, as he died before 22nd May 1654, when a commission was given by Oliver Cromwell for serving Sir Robert as heir of Sir Robert Montgomerie, elder, his father.[1] By Lady Mary he had four sons and two daughters —

1. Robert, who succeeded.

2. Henry, an officer in the army, as brother german to the Laird of Skelmorlie, granted a bond for 400 merks Scots on 29th May 1761. He died without issue.

3. James, who as brother german to Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Knight-Baronet, granted, on 19th October 1655, a discharge of £2500 Scots, contained in obligation by the deceased Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Knight, his father.

4. Neill, who as brother german to Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Knight, granted, on 18th February 1656, a discharge to him, which narrates, that Sir Robert, his brother, has holden him at schools, and entertained him in bed and board, ever since the decease of Sir Robert Montgomerie their father, and in that space had furnished him in aboulzements for his person, and is become full burdenar for him as an apprentice to John Cuik, merchant-burges of Glasgow, for payment to John and his spouse in prentice fee, and bounty of 600 merks of prentice fee, with 50 merks to his wife: Therefore Neill Montgomerie discharges the annualrent of £2500 due to him under his father's bond of provision.[2]

5. Anna, who married first, Mr. John Dickson, fiar of Busbie. They had a son David, and a daughter Margaret. The former, in 1653, received a bond for 3000 merks Scots as his mother's tocher, from her brother Sir Robert Montgomerie, younger, then of Skelmorlie.[3]

Mr. John Dickson, fiar of Busbie, died in August 1653, as appears from his testament, which was confirmed by the Commissary of Glasgow on 22nd May 1655, to Anna Montgomerie his relict, and is as follows —

At Glasgow, the saxtein day of August 1653, I, Mr. John Dicksone, fiar of Busbie, having rychteousnes and eternall life setled to me in Jesus Chryst by the covenant of grace, do make my testament and latter will concerning things temporall as follows: — In the first, I nominat Mr. James Robertone of Bedlay, Mr. David Dicksone, my father, and Mr. Alexander Dicksone, my broyther, or any of thame tutoris to my children, David and Margaret Dicksones. As also, I nominat my youngest broyther Andrew Dicksone, tutor to my said children, &c. Item, I nominat David and Margaret Dicksons, my children, executoris and intromittoris, with my guids

[1] Skelmorlie Writs. [2] Ibid. [3] Bourtreehill Writs.

and geir, &c. Item, I ordane my father and freinds to deall with Sir Archibald Johnestone of Waristone and his lady, for bringing the commowneing begune betuixt me and thame to some gud conclusione, anent quhat in law or conscience sould be refoundit to my fatherles children of the sowme of sevin thowsand merks and annuelrents thairof, advanced be me to thame at my entrie to the plaice quhilk I had in exchequer, &c. And lastlie, I humblie recommend my wyffe and children to the grace and blissit protectione of God; and under him to the care and protection of the very noble lords, Archibald Marquis of Argyle, Archibald Lord Lorne, and Lord Neill Campbell his sones, and to the kindness and caire of Sir Robert Montgomerie, elder of Skelmurlie, and Sir Robert Montgomerie younger, his son. In witnes quhairof, I have written and subscryvit thir presents with my awin hand, &c., befoir thir witness, Mr. Robert Baillie, professor of divinity in Glasgow, and Mr. Andrew Robertone, sone to Mr. James Robertone of Bedlay, &c.

Anna Montgomerie married, secondly, before 6th April 1656, William Cuninghame, brother-german to Alexander Cuninghame of Craigends.[1]

Sir Robert (VII.) died before 22nd May 1654, and was succeeded by

VIII. Sir Robert Montgomerie, ninth of Skelmorlie, and third Baronet. In 1648, the three Lairds of Skelmorlie, elder, younger, and youngest, were on the Committee of War for Ayr and Bute.[2] Sir Robert was repeatedly subjected to penalties by Government, on account of the attendance of his lady at conventicles.[3] He married, contract dated 27th and 29th August 1653,[4] Anna, second daughter and co-heiress of Sir James Scott of Rossie, Knight, and Antonia Willobie his spouse. On the occasion of the marriage, his father made over, by charter dated 5th December 1653, the tenandry of Skelmorlie to his son, and Anna Scott, his future spouse, and their heirs-male.[5] Five sons and four daughters were the issue of this marriage, viz.—

1. Sir James, who succeeded.

2. Archibald, who had a bond of provision from Sir Robert his father for 8000 merks Scots, dated 12th July 1683.[6] He appears to be the Archibald Montgomerie referred to in an account of expenses incurred to Mr. James Baillie, W.S., for expeding an edict of curatory in January 1698, against the nearest of kin of Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie. One of the items of expense is for 'executing against Archibald Mont-'gomry at Kirkaldie.'[7] He died without issue.[8]

3. Sir Hugh, who succeeded his nephew Sir Robert.

[1] Discharge by William Cuninghame at Eglinton.
[2] Acts of Parliament.
[3] Wodrow.
[4] Skelmorlie Writs.
[5] Skelmorlie Writs.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Account at Eglinton.
[8] Broomlands Manuscript.

4. Henry.

5. Alexander, who are both mentioned in bond of provision by their father, dated 10th and 12th July 1683. Henry and Alexander appear both to have died without issue before 1704, as they are not mentioned in the entail made in that year by their nephew, Sir Robert.

6. John, who was in the Naval Service. He was living at Paisley on 10th August 1688. In the entail made by his nephew Sir Robert in 1704, John and his descendants are excluded from the succession. John died without issue. Archibald, Henry, Alexander, and John, are mentioned in bond of provision by Sir Robert their father, in favour of Hugh, his third son, dated 10th and 12th July 1683.

7. Mary, married George Skene of Auchterairne, brother-german to the Laird of Skene. Their contract of marriage is dated 12th and 21st December 1687, and it bears that the marriage had been already solemnized between them.[1]

8. Anna, who, as second lawful daughter of the late Sir Robert Montgomerie, granted, on 14th February 1693, a discharge for part of her provision.

9. Antonia, baptized 2nd February 1668,[2] married Robert Boyd, younger of Portincross, who predeceased her, leaving issue, Robert, Anna, and Lilias Boyd, who had a bond of provision from Robert Boyd of Portincross, their grandfather, dated 14th November 1696. Hew, another son of this marriage, may have predeceased without issue.

10. Christian. These three daughters are all mentioned in a bond of provision in their favour, dated 13th December 1682. Christian married the Reverend James Clark, one of the ministers of Glasgow, and had a son Alexander, who died without issue.[3]

On the birth of one of his daughters on 25th June 1665, Sir Robert wrote to John Todd, gardener at Skelmorlie, that 'it hath pleased God to send me another daughter,' and desiring that Todd may send his wife as nurse. Sir Robert (VIII.) died on 7th February 1684, having been survived by his wife, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

IX. Sir JAMES MONTGOMERIE, ninth of Skelmorlie, and fourth Baronet. He was served heir to his father on 3rd February 1685.[4] Two months after his father's death in April 1684, his widowed mother addressed a strong appeal to him, to make suitable provisions for her and 'four fatherless children.' His answer is in these terms—

'I am stranglie surprised to be so hard quarrelled without anie ground, and to be reproached 'in write that my carriage towards you should be unsuitable to ane child to ane christiane, and

[1] Original Contract at Eglinton.
[2] Edinburgh Baptismal Record.
[3] Act of Parliament 1759, cited infra.
[4] Skelmorlie Writs.

'inconsistent with my credite with conscience and with the laues of God and man. I ame re-
'solved (and I hope you will enable me to do it) not onlie in my concerns with your ladyship,
'bot in all the transactions of my life, to act with a regard to conscience, credite, and the laues
'of God and man. I am glad that in anie business I have had as yet to doe with you, there
'wer some gentlemen witnesses to it, who will not onlie cleare me from anie mis-carriages of that
'nature towards your ladyship, bot will testifie I went lenths for peace, I was not tied to in lau.
'I continue in the same mind still, and if there fall in anie differences which soe hard and so
'groundless a letter seems to pretend (which God forbid), there shall be noe rise given to them
'upon my side; and that the candor of my dealings may be the better known, I resolve that
'some understanding gentlemen of repute shall be witnesses to oure ending; for I am resolved
'to do all reasone in my power to your ladyship, and by this method I shall obviate anie private
'misrepresentation of my actions. I am resolved whenever my health will allow, and some very
'pressing business is over, to wait upon your ladyship in order to this.'[1]

Sir James was chosen by the county of Ayr to act as their commissioner in the Convention of States which met at Edinburgh on the 14th of March 1689. He strenuously supported the resolution proposed and carried by the States, that King James II. had forfeited his throne and kingdom; and when this resolution was passed, he and the Earl of Argyle and Sir John Dalrymple were appointed by the Convention to proceed to London, and wait upon King William and Mary, and offer them the crown. William accepted the Scottish Crown, and it became necessary that he should appoint ministers to carry on the affairs of Scotland. Sir John Dalrymple was made Lord Advocate; Sir William Lockhart was appointed Solicitor-General; Melville was made Secretary of State; and Sir James Lord Justice-Clerk. Having set his heart on being Secretary, and being confessedly possessed of great talent for public business, and of eloquence only surpassed by Dalrymple, Sir James felt his claims neglected, and the delay in making out his commission as Justice-Clerk, which occurred after kissing the King's hand on his nomination, did not tend to soften his disappointment. During the delay, Sir James complained to Melville, the Secretary, that Dalrymple, the Advocate, gave out that Sir James would not receive his commission, until it was seen that he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the King in the session of Parliament. Of this, and also of Dalrymple's offering the office to several of his friends, Sir James complained, as very ill treatment to him.[2] The consequence was the formation of The Club —an association of disappointed Whigs, of whom Sir James, the Earl of Annandale and

[1] Skelmorlie Letters.

[2] Leven and Melville Papers, p. 190. The same volume contains several letters and papers regarding the subsequent proceedings of Sir James with reference to the restoration of the exiled family. Sir James received from James VII., in 1690, a commission to be Secretary of State, 'and a patent for an Earle.' [Leven and Melville Papers, p. 509.]

Lord Ross, were the leaders. The object of this club was to annoy the Government — the result of its formation was the ruin of its members.

Sir James was led into a correspondence with the exiled family, and their adherents in this country, which ended in a violent display of temper on both sides, and at the same time embroiled him with William beyond hope of reconciliation. Sir James retired to France, but only for a short time. He returned to London, and died there in September 1694.

From his position, Sir James must have had a large correspondence; but whether from his papers being wilfully destroyed, or from their being lost in the unsettled life which he led, only a few of them have been found.

Sir James married, contract dated 14th September 1678,[1] Lady Margaret Johnston, second daughter of James Earl of Annandale, and by her he had two sons —

1. Robert, who succeeded him, and,

2. William, who had from his father a bond of provision for 8000 merks, dated 26th August 1685. In an action before the Commissaries of Edinburgh, on 2nd March 1704, William Montgomerie, second son of the deceased Sir James Montgomerie, and Lady Margaret Johnston his spouse, declared that he was past fourteen and within twenty-one years, and chose his mother and his brother Sir Robert as his curators. He received a commission in the Earl of Orkney's Regiment of Foot in 1704, and afterwards became a lieutenant-colonel, and was killed in battle in Flanders.[2]

Lady Margaret Johnston survived her husband, and died in October 1726, when she was buried in the Abbey of Holyrood.[3]

X. Sir ROBERT MONTGOMERIE, tenth of Skelmorlie and fifth Baronet, succeeded his father, Sir James, in 1694. He was a lieutenant-colonel in the army, and commanded a garrison in Ireland. Sir Robert made an entail in 1704 of his lands of Lochlebosyde, Hartfield, and Ormsheugh, to himself and his brother-german William, and his uncle Hugh, and their heirs, male and female. By that entail, his uncle John Montgomerie and his descendants were excluded from the succession. Sir Robert married, in 1715, Frances, eldest daughter of Colonel Francis Stirling, second son of James Stirling, who was grandson of Sir Archibald Stirling of Keir.[4] A letter to his uncle, Mr. Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield on the occasion of his marriage, and begging for-

[1] Original Contract at Eglinton.
[2] Broomlands Manuscript.
[3] Letter from Sir Robert Montgomerie her son, at Eglinton.
[4] The Stirlings of Keir and their Family Papers, by William Fraser, 4to. Edinburgh, 1850, p. 60.

giveness for it, will be found among the correspondence.[1] By her he had three daughters —

1. Lilias, heiress of Skelmorlie, married Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield.
2. Isabella died unmarried, after 27th July 1736.
3. Agnes died unmarried at Edinburgh, 4th September 1759.[2]

Sir Robert died in Ireland in August 1731. Frances Stirling, his widow, died at Skelmorlie on 9th June 1759.

IX. Sir HUGH MONTGOMERIE of Hartfield, eleventh of Skelmorlie and sixth Baronet, succeeded his nephew, Sir Robert, in the baronetcy, in 1731,[3] having previously acquired the estate of Skelmorlie. He was third son of Sir Robert (VIII.), and had from him a provision of 8000 merks Scots, by bond dated 10th and 12th July 1683. He was apprenticed to Robert Blackwood, merchant-burgess of Edinburgh, by indenture dated 1st August 1681; and it appears from a certificate indorsed on the indenture, that Hugh faithfully performed and fulfilled his part thereof in all points. Sir Hugh became a wealthy merchant in Glasgow, and was provost of that city for some years; he also represented it in Parliament. He was one of the Commissioners appointed to treat for the union with England, and took an active part in the discussion of the subject in the last Parliament of Scotland, strenuously opposing several of the clauses of the treaty. He was one of the first representatives returned to the United Parliament.

Sir Hugh was elected rector of Glasgow College in October 1724. On the 1st of March following, which was the old day for electing the rector, the students presented a petition to the Principal for liberty to choose one, which was refused. An Irish pragmatic philosopher, with a number of his countrymen, went to Sir Hugh's (then Mr. Montgomerie) house, in a tumultuous manner; and when he was abroad, went into his house, turned up the windows, read and intimated their protestation against his being rector, in very impudent terms, and that same day printed and circulated their protest. For these proceedings, an Irish student of theology was expelled the college; and upon this, eight or nine of the Irish students, magistrands, left the class.[4] Sir Hugh married, contract dated 26th August 1687, Lilias, daughter of Peter Gemmel, merchant in Glasgow, and Christian Boyd his spouse, but had no issue. The tocher of Lilias was 12,000 merks.[5] Sir Hugh Montgomerie made extensive purchases of land, including Busbie, Hartfield and Lochleboside. He also acquired

[1] Vol. i. No. 242.
[2] Scots Magazine, vol. xxi. p. 445.
[3] Broomlands Manuscript.
[4] Wodrow's Analecta, iii. 185.
[5] Original at Eglinton.

Skelmorlie from his nephew, and on 27th May 1728, he executed an entail of that estate, in which he is designated second son to the deceased Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Knight and Baronet. The entail proceeds on the narrative, that —

'By the rights and securities whereupon my predecessors stood infeft, and by virtue 'whereof they did brook and enjoy the lands and estate of Skelmurely, it evidently 'appears, that the said estate has for very many generations lineally descended to, 'and devolved upon the eldest sone of the family: And whereas of late, through 'severall misfortunes, the said estate being much incumbered and burdened, has 'been purchased by me, a younger brother, from Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skel-'murlie, my nephew:'

Therefore Sir Hugh, in the event of the non-existence of children to himself, dispones, after his own death, to Sir Robert his nephew, in liferent, and his children; whom failing, to Alexander Clark, son to the deceased Mr. James Clark, minister of the gospel at Glasgow, and Christine Montgomerie, his spouse, sister of the granter, and his children, and other heirs to be named by the granter. Sir Hugh Montgomerie died on 14th January 1735, and in his person ended the direct male line of the family of Montgomerie of Skelmorlie. On the 27th July 1736, Mrs. Lilias Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, and Isabella and Agnes Montgomerie, all daughters of Sir Robert Montgomerie, were retoured heirs portioners of Sir Hugh Montgomerie, their grand-uncle, in the lands of Busbie.[1] Lilias Gemmel, Lady Montgomerie, died in 1755.[2]

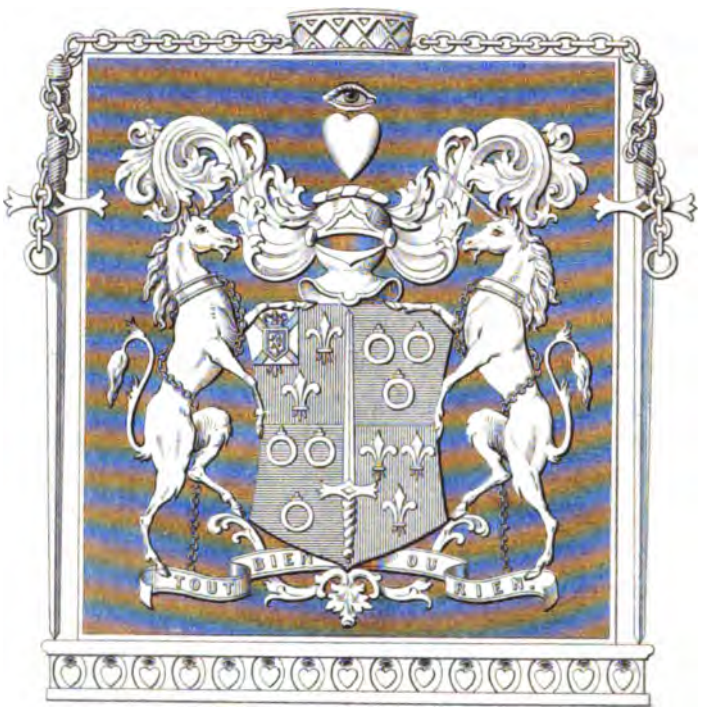
XI. Lilias Montgomerie, heiress of Skelmorlie, succeeded her grand-uncle Sir Hugh Montgomerie, and was served heiress of taillie to him on 20th August 1735. In 1759, she obtained an Act of Parliament authorizing her to sell the lands of Lochleboside and Hartfield, within the shire of Renfrew, which are said to be far remote from the other parts of the estate, in a barren and hilly country, little capable of improvement, and to apply the price in the purchase of lands in the shire of Ayr contiguous to Skelmorlie and Ormsheugh. In virtue of this Act the lands of Lochleboside and Hartfield were sold, and the price was applied in the purchase of Coilsfield. Lilias Montgomerie made a new entail of Skelmorlie on 27th June 1774. She married, in 1735, Alexander Montgomerie of Coilsfield, by whom she had a large

[1] Inq. Retorn. lib. 64, fol. 31.

[2] Skelmorlie Writs.

family, an account of whom is given under the Coilsfield branch. Lilias Montgomerie died on 18th November 1783, and was succeeded in Skelmorlie by her eldest son, Hugh Montgomerie of Coilsfield, afterwards twelfth Earl of Eglinton, on whose death in 1819, the estate of Skelmorlie devolved on his grandson, the present Earl of Eglinton, who is the present proprietor of Skelmorlie. His lordship made a new entail of Skelmorlie, which is dated 12th December 1848.

Armorial Bearings.



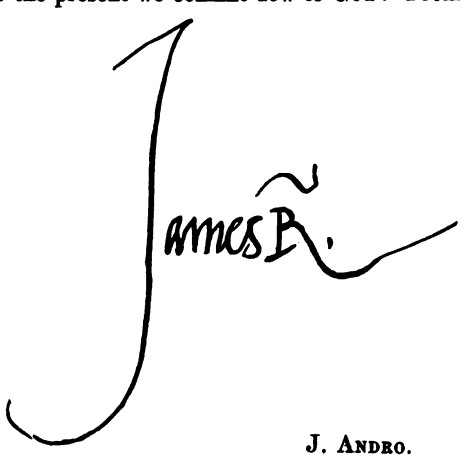
Patent of Arms to Sir Hugh Montgomerie, 13th January 1732.

Quarterly, first and fourth, azure, three fleur de lisses, Or; second and third, gules, three annulets, Or, stoned azure, Over all, a two-handed sword, in pale, proper. Above the shield, an helmet befitting his degree; with a mantle, gules doubling, argent. And on a wreath of his colours is set, for his crest, a heart surmounted of an eye, proper. Motto, in an escroll above, tout bien ou rien, supported by two unicorns, argent, arm'd, main'd, and ungled, Or.

LETTERS FROM KING JAMES VI. CHARLES I. AND II.

King James VI. to the Earl of Eglintoun and the Lord Boyd, 2nd July 1579.

1. Rycht and traist cousingis and counsailouris, we greet zow weill: We schew zow afoir how desyrous we wer to haue this contrauersy standing betuix our cousingis, William and Hary Stewartis, sones to our traist cousing and counsalour the Lord Vchiltre, and the sonnis, kin and frendis of vmquhile Charles Mowat, removit, componit and takin vp; quhairin we ar zit moved to insist, and the rather for that our saids cousingis ar willing to offer and mak all assyithment and satisfactioun that ressonabillie can be demandit of thame, or that ony wayis thair abilitie will permit thame to do, quhilk, for our awin pairt, we think of ressoun aucht not to be refusit: In respect quhairof, and that delay is verie dangerous, as careing with it a motioun of forder inconvenient, we will desir and requeist zow thairfoir effectuislie, that for eschewing thairof ze will, for our saik and requeist, tak sum panis to compone and tak vp the mater, be sic mid and indifferent way as ze think gude, quhairthrow vnite and concord may be continewit betuix bayth the partiis in tyme cuming; quhairin as ze sall do that thing quhilk salbe mekill to our reiosing and contentment, sa sall ze find ws willing to satisfie zour gude will and desir agane in a greittar mater, quhensoeur occasioun salbe offerit: Thus for the present we commit zow to God: Frome our Castell of Striueling, the second day of July 1579.



To our rycht traist cousing and counsalour the Erll of Eglintoun, and our traist cousing and counsalour the Lord Boyd.

J. Andro.

King James VI. to Alexander, first Earl of Linlithgow, 11th December 1605.

JAMES R.

2. Right trusty and welbeloued cowsen and counsellour, wee greete yow right heartely well. Wee receaued your letter, and haue hearde this bearer your seruant at length: As concerning your daughter, wee are sory that such occasions are fallen out, as we can neyther dispach her home to yow as yee desire, nor conueniently haue her placed in such roome as wee wold willinglie allow her; yet, till better opportunity, wee haue kepte her still here, wher her vsage salbe no worse then her owne behauiour (which is in treuth very good), and your faithfull seruice have deserued: In the meane tyme, if any occasion of a fitte mariage falle out for her, wee giue yow assurance that wee wille not only pay her dower, but also defray all other charges belonging thereunto. As for our Pallace of Lynlithgow, and Castle of Blacknesse, we gaue directioun sufficient concerning them to our trusty counsellour the Earle of Dumbar, who will take order therewith accordinglie. And so wee commende yow hartely to God. At our Pallace of Whitehalle, the aleuenth of December, 1605.

To our right trusty and welbeloued cowsen and counsellour, the Earle of Lynlithgow: giue these.

King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Oliphant, Lord Advocate, 21st January 1615.

JAMES R.

3. Right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, and trusty and welbeloued counsellour, wee greete yow well. Whereas wee are now resolued what course to take in this busines of Eglintoun, so as it onlie resteth to pronounce our sentence therein; yet have wee thought good, before wee sende the same vnto yow, to wille and require yow to cause Sir Alexander Montgomerie, in your presence, resigne all clame and right which he might in any wise have pretended to the stile and honour of Earle of Eglintoun, and that he exhibite vnto yow in writing a sufficient resignation of the said stile and dignity, signed with his hand, to be kept ad futuram rei memoriam; and that with all convenient expedition yee sende vs an authentique coppie thereof: which not doubting bot yow will see sufficientlie and with diligence performed, wee bid yow farewell. At Newmarkett, the xxi^{t} of Januarie 1615.

To our right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, the Lord Binning, our Secretarie, and to our trusty and welbeloued counsellour, Sir William Olyphant, knight, our Aduocate.

King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Olyphant, Lord Advocate, 27th February 1615.

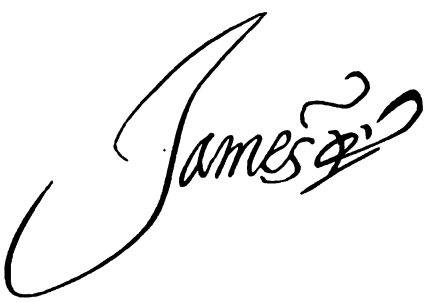
JAMES R.

4. Right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, and trusty and welbeloued counsellor, wee greete yow well. We haue receaued your letter, together with the coppie of Sir Alexander Mont-

gomeries dimission of the stile and dignity of Earle of Eglingtoun; and although in your letter yee say that the said dimission hath all the substance and forme which may denude him of that dignity, yet seeing that yee are they on whose iugement and sufficiencie wee must relie in that pointe, wee haue thought good to require yow to aduise before yee giue the infeftment oute of your handes, if any thing be to be added to the said dimission, wherby to make it euerie way sufficient in law; and not doubting of your care hereof, wee bid yow farewell. At our Pallace of Whitehalle, the penulte of Februarie 1615.

To our right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, the Lord Binning, our Secretarie, and to our trusty and welbeloued counsellour, Sir Williame Olyphant, knighte, our Aduocate.

King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, and Sir William Olyphant, Lord Advocate, 27th February 1615.



5. Right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, and trusty and welbeloued counsellor, wee greete yow well. Our iustlie conceaued offence for the intolerable abuse likelie to haue taken roote in that our kingdome, by transferring the titles and dignityes of Lordes of Parliament frome the lineall discente of the race which wee or our royall progenitours had honored with that eminent dignity, to strangers, by infeftmentes of intayle or other alienations exped there vnder our casheite, moued vs to prohibite Sir Alexander Montgomerie (who by such meanes was prouided to the liuing and Earledome of Eglington) to vsurpe that title and place; not for any dislike of the gentleman, who by his most dewtifull behauiour had giuen vs occasion to expecte that he wolde not proue vnworthie of his predecessours of that ancient house whereof he is lineallie descended, whose loyalty had deserued all fauour and honour frome vs and our progenitours; but that he and all others by him might know that, wee being the onlie author and founteyne of all dignity in our dominions, no meanes could promoue any subiecte thereunto but our gracious and free guifte, according to his deserte, inducing vs of certeyne knowledge and propper motiue to conferre the same vpon him: and therefor wee haue thought it conuenient to make our wille and iuste resolution herein so expresslie knowne vnto yow, as yee may intimate the same to all our officers and keepers of our registers and seales; commanding them in our name neuer hereafter to suffer any such in-

feftment of intayle or other security to passe, as may convey the dignity of a Lord of Parliament to any but such as haue sufficient and particular warant of their dignity vnder our owne hand. And neuertheles, since Sir Alexander Montgomerie, not onlie by his verball submission in most humble and dewtiful maner, hath absolutelie putte in our handes the power to dispose vpon any clame which he may, by his infeftment or retoure, pretende to the title of Earle of Eglington, but also renewed the same by solemne resignation of the said title in our handes; our pleasour is that, according to the signature of the said Earldome past our hand, yee cause expede a new infeftment to him of the said liuing and dignity; whereby the worlde may know that nothing but our royall bounty maketh him to enioy that dignity; wherefor he may be the further obliged by his seruice to giue vs such proofes of thankfulness and loyalty as so high a fauour doeth deserue. So expecting your carefull performance of the premisses, we bid yow farewell. At our Pallace of Whitehalle, the penulte of Februarie 1615.

To our right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, the Lord Binning, our Secretarie, and to our trusty and welbeloued counsellour, Sir Williame Olyphant, knight, our Aduocate in our kingdome of Scotlande: giue these.

King James VI. to Lord Binning, Secretary of State, 27th February 1615.

JAMES R.

6. Right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, wee greete yow well. We have bene pleased hetherto to directe our commandementes concerning this busines of Eglington to yow and our aduocate onlie; but now, becaus the deliuerie of the infeftment requireth some more solemnity then can be conuenientlie performed in presence of yow two alone, we haue thought good hereby to require yow, that (when yee shall haue the resignation of the title and honouris of the said Earledome sette doune in writing in competent forme, signed with the hand of Sir Alexander Montgomerie, deliuered vnto yow) yee assemble to the nvmber of fiue or six of the principalles of our counsell, and in their presence declare that, although wee had most iust reason to haue debarred the said Sir Alexander from all honouris during his lifetime, as one who had so long deferred to committe to our arbitriment the collation or abrogation of those honouris which without our consente or knowledge had bene giuen him; yet seeing that the gentleman had at length (for testification of his obedience and sorow for hauing offended vs in that pointe), withoute any knowledge or the leaste suspicion of our fauour towardes him in that behalfe, surrendered the said honouris in our hand, in so ample a maner (by the surrender which yee haue there to show) as he could not challenge any higher ranke then that of a knight, wee haue bene pleased to confirme vnto him that honour which by an other, although withoute our knowledge, had bene conferred vpon him: and so deliuering vnto him our infeftment, yee may shew vnto him how gracious a souerane he serueth, who so easilie could be mooued to pardon an offence so highlie

touching his prerogative: and knowing that yee will sufficientlie amplifie the premisses with all circumstances requisite, wee bid yow farewell. At our Pallace of Whitehalle, the penulte of Februarie 1615.

To our right trusty and right welbeloued counsellour, the Lord Binning, our Secretarie of our kingdome of Scotlande.

King James VI. to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 19th October 1616.

JAMES R.

7. Righte trustie and righte welbeloued cosen, wee greete yow well. Whereas our seruant John Leuingston hath bene an earnest sueter vnto vs that yee mighte haue license to hauke and hunte in the weste cuntries of that our kingdome, wee are well pleased (in respecte that our intention was not to debarre anie of your ranke frome his honest recreation or lawfull disporte, but onlie to preserve the game in a reasonable estate) thus far to yealde to your desire, as yee may with long winged haukes, hauke and kille all sortes of foules; absteyning onlie frome partridges and moore-foules, and hunte hares with raches, giuing them faire play, not hunting them with greyhoundes: and persuading ourselfe that yee wolde vse your pastime no otherwise, although wee had made no restraynte, wee bid yow farewell. At Hinchingbrooke, the 19th of October 1616.

To our righte trustie and righte welbeloued cosen, the Earle of Eglintoun.

From King Charles I. (address wanting), 29th August 1627.

8. Right trusty and welbeloued: We greete yow well. Being informed of the laudable custome of the gentrie of that our kingdome in choosing their commissioners at the yearely Michellmesse courts in euerie shire, for attending parliaments, conventiones, or other generall meetinges of the estates of our said kingdome; wee haue thought fitt, out of our princely care of both church and common wealth, to wreit to our sheriff of that shire, that such commissioners may be chosen as are well affected to our seruice and the publict good; and haue in particular recommended the Lairds of Pollock, Maxwell and Blackhall, as men fitt to be commissioners for this next ensueing yeare: But considering how needfull it is that so good a wark be seconded by such as haue power in such electiones, and being confident of your affection

to our seruice, care of the publict, and respect to our princely desires; therfor we haue thought fitt to recommend the election of the said persones vnto your speciall care and endeauours, according to the particuler trust wee do repose in your sufficiencie and affection to our seruice: and so wee bid yow heartily farewell. From our court at Oatekin, the 29 of August 1627.

King Charles I. to the Lord Semple, 19th January 1636.

CHARLES R.

9. Right trusty and welbeloued, wee greete yow well. Whereas wee haue been pleased to accept of your surrender of the sherrifship of Renfrew and baillierie of Paislay, and thereupon haue condiscended with Bryce Semple of Cathcart in your behalf, by giuing yow such assurrance as at this time can be granted for a proporcion of three thousand acres of land in the first intended plantacion in Connaught in Irland, and to him (whom till Michaillmesse 1637 wee haue appointed sherriff and bailliff of these offices) 1000 acres for his seruice to vs in the valuacion of tithes, and apprehending of one who had comitted a fowle murther; yow, your deputies or assignes, being sufficient and able persones performing such conditiones of that plantacion as others in the like cases, residing therevpon your selfs, or naming such as yow please for doing thairof. And wee are hereby pleased to declare that if yow, your said deputies or assignes, shall not be sufficientlie secured of that proporcion of land by any default not proceeding from your self or them, wee will repone yow in your own place of these offices. Soe wee bid yow farewell. From our court at Whitehall, the 19th of January 1636.

To oure right trusty and welbeloued, the Lord Semple.

King Charles I. to Hugh, Lord Montgomery, 22nd March 1639.

CHARLES R.

10. Right trusty and welbeloued, wee grete you well. Wheras for the better settling of businesse in that our kingdom of Scotlande, we haue occasion to speak with yow, both concerning our owne seruice and your particular; we do heerby will and require yow, all excuses sett aparte, to make your imediat and personall repaire hether to our presence, for this our weighty and important seruice; wherin yow are not to faile at your vttermost perill. Giuen at our Court at Whitehall, the 22nd day of March 1639.

To our right trustie and welbeloued, the Lord Montgomery.

King Charles I. to the Commissioners of Exchequer in Scotland, 7th December 1647.

CHARLES R.

11. Richt trustie and wellbelovit cowsignes and counsellouris, ryght trustie and weilbelovit coun-

sellouris, and rycht trustie and weilbelovittis. Whairas we wer formerlie pleased, for our self, and as lawfull administratour to our darrest sone, Charles Prince of Scotland and Wailles, be oure signatour superscryvit be our royall hand, for the causis thairincontenit, to mak and constitut vmquhill Bryce Semple of Cathcairt and James Semple, his eldest laufull sone, and thair aires and assigneyes thairinmentionat, heretabill shireffis principall of the baronie and shirefdoome of Renfrew, and heretabill bailzies principall of the bailziarie and regalitie of Paisley, and gave and disponit to thame and thair foresaidis the heretable richt and office of the said shirefchip and bailliarie, with all dignities and honouris perteining thairto, dureing our not payment making to thame of the soum of fyve thowsand pundis sterling out of our exchecker of our kingdoome of Ireland, in satisfactioun to thame of four thowsand ackeris of land promittit be ws to vmquhill Hew Lord Semple, and the said Bryce Semple, out of Connaught, within our said kingdoome of Ireland, for the resignatioun maid be thame of the saidis offices in our handis: And we being informit that, efter the expeding of the said signatour in favouris of the saidis vmquhile Bryce and James Semples throw the seillis and registeris, the saidis vmquhill Bryce and James Semples disponit the saidis offices of shirefchip and bailliarie to our ryght trustie and weilbelovit cowsigne, Robert Lord Ross; and that he is presentlie in persowance of the expeding of ane signatour vpoun thare dispositioun of the saidis offices; Oure pleasour is thairfoir, and we command yow, that ye pass and exped the said signatour of the said shrefchip and bailliarie in favoures of our said trustie and weilbelovit cowsigne, Robert Lord Ross; the samyn being just, and conforme in everie thing to our said signatour grantit in favouris of the saidis vmquhill Bryce and James Semples of the saidis offices of befoir; and that notwithstanding that the said signatour be not alreddie superscryvit be ws, whairanent we heirby dispens: and thir presentis sall be to yow ane sufficient warrand. We bid you faireweill. From our maner at Hamptoun, the 7 day of December 1647.

To our richt traist cowsigne and counsellouris, to our rycht trustie and weilbelovit counsellouris, and to our rycht trustie and weilbelovit, our thesaureris principall and deputtie, and the remanent commissioneris of exchecker of that our kingdoome of Scotland.

King Charles II. to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, 24th May (1651).

12. Right trustie and right welbeloved cossen, wee greete yow well. Upon ane humble petition to vs and our Committee of Estates by James Fleming, he hath gotten ane order concerning his barke

and goods taken from him at sea: Wee recommend him therfore to yow, that according to the warrande and order he hath, it may be accordingly performed, and that yow make see that nothing belonging to him be imbeselled or riffled, but that without delays or subterfuges the goods be restored; and soe wee bid yow very hartily farewell. Given att our Court att Sterlyne, the 24th of May, and in the third year of our raigne.

To our right trustie and right welbeloved cossen, the Lord Montgomerie.

The same to the same, 3rd June 1651.

CHARLES R.

13. Right trustie and right welbeloved cosen, wee greete yow well. Wee have apoynted Captain Jhon Bartlett, with a ship of warre, to goe to sea, whoe is not so well provided of greate gunns as were necessarie; therfore we intreate that yow would lend him four of yours for a voyage he is to make, which will not be long: wee desire also he may have cariages and fyftie shott for them; and wee give you our assurance all shallbe rendered againe vnto yow, in as good condition and in the same quantitie they are receaved. The Captain is the bearer of this our letter vnto yow; wee recommend him to your favor, whom wee knowe yow will looke vpon and further according to your affection to our service, of which wee are very confident and assured: and soe wee bid yow very hartily farewell. Given att our Court at Sterlyne, the 3rd June 1651, and in the third yeare of our reigne.

To our right trusty and right welbeloved cossen, the Lord Montgomery.

Declaration by King Charles II. in favour of Hugh Lord Mongomerie.

CHARLES R.

14. It is our pleasure the number of fortie men which the Lord Mongomerie hath raised and doeth maintaine at the Isle of Comrie, may be allowed to him in this new levie for so many out of his owne or his fathers proper lands. Given at our Court at Sterlin, the 30 of July 1651.

LETTERS TO AND FROM THE EARLS OF EGLINTON, &c.

Sir John Mure of Callwall, Knight, to Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, 10th May [1569.]

15. My Lord—Efter mest hartle commendatione off service: Pleys zour lordschip, I haif spokkin my Lord Regentis Grace twiching the lenthment of zour assurance, haiffand vyth me ane vretting of me Lord Askenis in the mest hartle maneir he culd vret be my awin dvyce: gif ze had bein his awin sone he culd doe na mair. His ansur vas, he vald nocht lenth it ane hovr for na mannis pleasor nor reqvest. I fand it to be trew that Jhone Bailze spak to me affor zour lordschip. My Lord Regentis Grace saying vas onto me, he had gevin zour lordschip ane assurance to ane langer day nor he had gevin to ony lord or erle in Scotland, Heland or Lawland; swa it apperit ze bot mockit him. I schew his Grace that I had sein ane assurance of my Lord Ergellis to the saxt of Junii; his ansur, it vas bot ane day gevin to him to fulfill sic promesis as vas maid; bot he hes allredde presentit him seilf, and maid his dew obedience to the Kingis Grace and to me Lord Regent, and hes sowit thair intent and vill in sic things as vys layit to his charge, quhilk is lang to vret. As to my Lord Ergellis vreting, I presentit it nocht, for sic causis as zour lordschip sall ken at metting; it wald haif done me na gud, bot rather evill; nochttheles I avaittit vpon his Grace vnto I gat him qvyat vyth sic myons as I obtenit, desyrand at his Grace that I mycht spaik him at lentht, than that I mycht haif conferrence vyth him in sic efferis as I had adoe vyth his Grace; and efter lang resonyng, I haif obtenit ane assurance to zour lordschip to sic dayis as ze sall persaiwe contenit in the samyn, quhilk vas verray hard to get. I am remanyng in this tovne for till haif ansur in sic vder efferis as ze gaif me crydit and commissione: sa sone as I may haif done, I salbe at zour lordschip with diligence. Ferder, zour lordschip sall ken there is nother erle, lord, nor barrovn in Scotland bot thay ar allredde come in bot ze; me Lord Huntle beis in this tysday, the tent of Maii: nochtwithstanding his incummyng he vill get na appointment wythowt he rander all proffeittis that he hes intromittit vytht of the Kings Grace properte, and likvayis of me Lord Regentis awin; vyth mendis mackeing to all landit men and gentill men, and vderis that he hes offendit too: and suppois that be done, his awin Grace schew vnto me that he is determinit to pas throw all the North to hald iustice covrtis and to pvneish faltouris. Thair is na thing heir bot greyt obedience. Zowr lordschip may be assurit ze vill haif his Grace na narrar nor Sanctandrwss; and the first day of Junii passis fordwart to the Northe. Jhone Bailze did veill

that gaif me nocht the assurance, nochtvythstanding I maid ane in the same maneir quhilk vald nocht be exceppit [be] my Lord Grace. Sa as to novellis, I haif na vderis bot as I haif vriting, except Niknevein thollis ane assyiss this tyssday: it is thovcht scho sall suffer the detht; sum vderis belevis nocht. Gif scho deis, it is ferit scho doe cummer, and caus mony vderis to incur denger; bot as zit, for no examinatione me Lord Regent nor the ministeris can mak, scho will confess no wytchcreftis nor gilt, nor vderis, bot sayis to me Lord Regent and the exemineris that it is nocht that hes cavsit hir to be taen bot the potingaris; and that for invy, be ressone she vass the help of thame that vass onder infirmate, and spakis the most crafte spakein as is possibill to ane woman to be sa far past in zeris, qwha is ane hundrit zeris. Ferder, God haif zour lordship in keping. Off Sanctandrws, the tent day of Junii,[1] be zowre lordships at power,

To my Lord, the Erll of Egleintovn.

Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to the Laird of Nethir Pollok, 2nd November 1576.

16. Honorabill Sir — Eftir hartlie commendatioun: I ressauit zour letter; and toward zour anuell ze wrait of, according to my former letter writtin to zow, I left the same all in the tennentis handis, and ordanit my seruand, Andro Nevin, to collect and imbring the same owt of thair handis to be deliuerit to zow. And becaus I haue presentlie directit the said Andro Nevin to Edinburgh, with sum siluer to my Lord Regentis Grace, thairfoir ze man haue patience quhill the saide Androis returne frome Edinburgh; and in continent thereftir I sall caus mak zow payment of zour anuellis as reasoun wald, and ze salbe no langer differrit. Thus having presentlie no vthir occasioun, comittis zow in the protection of God. From Polnone, the second of Nouembir 1576; and geif credeit to the berar.

Zour lufing gud freind assuritlie,

To the honuorabill and my verie gud freind, the Lard of Nethir Pollok, Kyncht.

[1] From two references in the body of the letter to the 10th of May, as then instant, and the 1st of June, as future, this month should be May.

Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. John M'Calzeane, 7th December 1584.

17. Traist Freind—Efter hartlie commendatioun: This is to aduerteis zow that ther wes omittit furth of my bill and packet, direct to zow, the Abbott of Kylwinningis gyft of the directourie of the chanchlarie of Kilwinning, maid to Archibald Lorimer and Johnne Mur, notaris; quhilk gift ze sall ressaue for instructioun of the letteris raisit at thair instancis aganis the Abbott: and I pray zow that ze will desyir zour maister to insist in the saidis causis, the day being past according to the ordour. Ze sall ressaue this minneit of tiket, wryttin be Johnne Wilsoun, messenger, quhair he hes lousit ane pretendit fenss maid vpoun the guidis and geir of Thomas Wilsoun, in Monkcastell, be vertew of our souerane lordis letteris, and hes ressauit ane man of the Ryaltie cautioner for the fenss, quhilk aucht to haue bene ane of the Regalitie. Alwayis desyiris that zour maister and ze insist in the principall actioun. Remitting all vther thingis to new aduerteisment, committis zow to God. Frome Irvin, the sevint day of December 1584.

Zour gud freind,

EGLYNTOUN.

To my traist freind, M^r. Johnne M^cCalzeane, seruitour to M^r. Johnne Scharpe, delyuer this.

Neill Montgomerie of Langschaw to John Maxwell of Nether Pollok, 30th December 1584.

18. Honorable Sir—Efter my hartlie commendatioun: Ze sall vnderstand that I have directit away this bearar till Edinburgh to my man of law, with the copie of the gift quhilk ze send me; and siclyk hes send the letters of horning with the executiounes therof, and hes send ane discharge of myne to my Lord of Mortoune, for fulfilling of that pairt of the contract. In cais my lord thair will satisfie Mr. John Russall and John Halyday, thai sall ressaue and delyuer him my acquittance gif thai find the gift valeable. Thairfoir, sir, saifand zour wisdome, I think it best to zou to wrett away to my lord, and lat my lord be foirsene, in cais he will do thair that thing quhilk is mesure. I am na wayis myndit to do his lordship trubill be na letteris of myne; he doand that thing quhilk salbe fand aggreable with the contract. Mr. Johne Russall and Johne Halyday sall satisfie his lordship to his contentment, alsueill as I war thair present myself; and this I have done for zour request, and for eis to my lord. Nocht omitting my hartlie commendatiouns to zour bedfallow, my ante, and swa commitis zow to God. From Irwin, the penult of December 1584.

Zour assurit freind in the auld maner,

LANGSCHAW.

To the rycht honorabill his assurit freind, John Maxwell of Nether Pollok, Knycht.

Hugh, third Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. John M'Calzeane, 7th February 1584.

19. Guid Freind—Efter hartlie commendatioun: Ze sall vndirstand thatt I have writtin to zour maister anens my defensis contrar the summondis intendit aganis me be the Duik of Levenox; the quhilk

I watt ze will be participant of. I have ordanit the beirer heirof to delyuer to zow thir ewedentis as eftir followis, to be producit giff zour maister thinkis the samyn expedient: Item, my grandschiris infeftment of the landis of Tarboltoun and Gaistoun, annalieit to him be vmquhill Jhonne Erle of Levenox, vndir our soverane Lordis greit seill: Item, my sonis instrument of sasing and my awin, grantit be our soverane Lordis dairrest fathir and mothir, conforme to our new infeftment of the landis lybellitt aganis vs be the Duik of Levenox: Item, tua copyis quhar I am summond be the Duik of Levenox, to produce sic ewedentis of the landis of Tarbolton quhilk I have: and delyuer to this beirer zour awn hand writt vpoun the resait of thir foirsaidis, that I may knaw that he hes delyuerit the samin to zow; and ze sall be sattisfeit for zour panis at my cuming to Edinburgh, quhilk salbe sua shone as the abilatie of my body may serve: and quhat beis done heirintill, or in ony vtheris my causis, aduerteis me as occasioun servis. This committis zow to God. Off Irving, the sevint day of Februar 1584.

Zour guid freind,

EGLYNTOUN.

To my guid freind, M^r. Jhonne M^cCailzeane, seruitour to M^r. Jhone Schairpe.

Patrick Maxvell of Neverk to the Laird of Nether Pollok, 27th January 1585.

20. Rycht Honorable—Eftir hartlie commendatioune: I am informit of swm interpryse of my enemeis agains me, and at the Raid of Stirling mony of our hagbitis was taine fra ws: Quhairfor I pray zow, sir, to lat me haif the laine of ane cwpple of hagbitis, and ze sell haif thame againe within twentie dayis. As also, gif ony occasiowne fortownis that I man chairge freindis, I haif no dowbt, wpon my nixt adverteisment, bot that ze will be reddie in defence of my lyif and honestie; as ze sell find me reddie to requyt zour gwidwill quhen occasiowne serwis, as knawis God, qwha mot preserwe zow eternallie. From Newark, the xxvii day of Januar 1585.

Zour lowyng freind at power,

P. MAXVELL of Neverk.

To the rycht honorabill and my speciall frend, the Lard of Nether Pollok, Knycht.

Andrew Semple of Bruntshiels to his nephew, the Lord Semple, 16th March 1611.

21. My Lord and maist lovinge nepheu — I wes maist hertlie rejoyset to be participant with the continuance of zour guide helthe be zour letter of the 26 of Februier, that come to my handis this daye; to the whilke I do ansuer presentlie with this extraordinaire and meanes that will come assuritlie to zour handis. I haef considderit zour intending towardis Flanderis, at whilke occasione I soulde wische my selffe ane thousande tymes in persone, not onlie to saluite zow, bot evin also offre continuance of my benevolence to zour service, as I haef schawine before to my lord zour father; as I suppone zie haef harde mair amplie nor I purpose to inlairge at this opurtunitie. Nevirthelesse I sall not omitt to importune zow with my vthres letteris at zour arryue there, whan

it sall please God Almichtie to conduicte zow with inteare helthe, and in the meantyme sall obeye zour comande and direct these two Spanische bledis as ze haef ordainet; requiesting maist affectuouslie to commande me in all thinges whairin I maye be abile to do zow seruice: and thus, with my humble deutie rememberit in kissinge zour handis, committs to the tuitione of God Almichtie. Of Madrid, the 16 of Mairche 1611.

Your lordships maist lovinge and obedient vncle to be commandit,

To the richt honorable Lord, and my maist lovinge nepheu, my Lord Semple. These. Paris.

Alexander, first Earl of Linlythgow, to his daughter Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 1st November 1612.

22. Loveing daughter — I receavit zour lettir, together with ane frome my lady zour good mother, quha desyres me to meit hir ladyship into Edinburgh upone Weddnisday nixtt; quhilk I sall nocht omitt, if my healthe will permit me, as I have wrettin to her ladyship, and give the best assestance lyes in me to the furtherance of zour housbands affaires. Bott within these thre nightis, there is ane dollour falling downe into the right syd of my head, with the pape into my halse, that stayis me frome rest, eatting or drinking. I perceave my lord zour housband is nocht certane of his returne; therfore we mone take the greatter cair of his turnes at this terme: and albeit they go sumquhat hardlie as zitt quhair he is, there is no dowpt bott it will turne wthirwayes shortlie. I am verie dilligent to have money to zou in tyme, albeit I may nocht travell my selfe; and sall leave no thing vndone to the furtherance therof. So for the present, my verie loveing dewtie remembred, I committ zou to Gods protectiowne, and restethe evir,

Your ladyships loving father,

Linlithgow Palice, 1st November 1612.

To my honourabill loveing daughter, the Countess of Eglintoune. These.

Dame Grissall Roos, Lady Keir, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 5th November 1612.

23. Madame — My most deutiful commendations rememberit: Pleis zour ladyship that this zung gentilman, my sister the Lady Carnebeis sone, being desyrus to be placit in service vith sum nobilman, and hes villit me to mak my moyen for the saming, in respect his father hes sumquhat outschot him self in misgoverning his rent; and I, accounting zour ladyschip, and [my lord zour] husband, as the most speciall freinds that I heaue to imploy, vill most affectuiesly request zour ladyship that ze vill place this zung man ather in my lord zour husband's chamber to putt on or af his cloths and vait on his lordship, or in quhat vther office zour ladyship thinks meit for such a ane; and I vilbe ansuerable to zour ladyship that he sal be faithful and obediant to my lord or zour ladyship in quhatsoeuer ze imploy him. I think very long to heaue met vith zour ladyship for sindrie respects; bot I blis God that I heir so guid neus of zour ladyship, and prays God that it may ever continue. Sua referring to zour ladyship's ansuer, I rest

Zour ladyship's louing ant to be commandit,

Ochiltrie, the 5 of November 1612.

To my very guid lady, my Lady Countes of Eglintoune, this be delyueritt.

Anna Countess of Eglintoune to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, 11th November 1612.

24. My deare hert — Acording to your desyre and my dewtie, I can nott omitt this ocasione in wreting vnto you, alltho I be putt in hop to sie you or this come to your hands, which I wold wish war trew: butt in the meine tyme I most content my self in obeying you; and shall ever stryue to yeeld you sattesfactione be all the means that I can, be wret or anie way I can possiblie: assuring you I can not but be partakar of your weall and crosses, for the continouance of your loue and good helth must nieds mak myn to be the better: therefor I pray you tak no mallancolie for your presand crosses, which, with the grace of God, I trust ye shall shortlie ouercome. The chancler hes told me he will wret to you to staye no longer if His Maiestie be no better myndet then he was. I wish Her Maiestie may be ane good agent for you; as also, that my Lord Rotchester may proue ane trew frend vnto yow. I haue wretin thanks to Ladie Jane for her kyndnes vnto yow; which I am verie gled. As for your adois at this terme, my hert, I will assur yow of my ladie your mothers gret care for the weall of all your affears, be the assistance of my lord your vncle and your brother: they ar in a verie good esteat for the presantt, presed be God; for my lord my father hes prowydet his twontie thowsand marks, but hes bein in

gret danger of his lyf be ane sqwinance in his hais. I com from him yisterday, and left him at a resonable good esteatt. I steayed with him but one night, for I came hear with my lord your brother, who was casione for ten thowsand marks for your wss, which your vncle and my ladie prowydet for, as ye will know at miting; my Lord Elphiston hes also send his monie. Now, I pray you my hert, if before your parting yee want monie, spear nott to caus sell thos things yee twk vp with you. Wiliam Ditt will gett his monie acording to your letter. Ther was one I wret to you with ane little ring in it; I fear it is not come to your hands yett. I must remit all forder til miting: and so praying God for your good retourne, I rest,

Yours euer mor then myne owne,

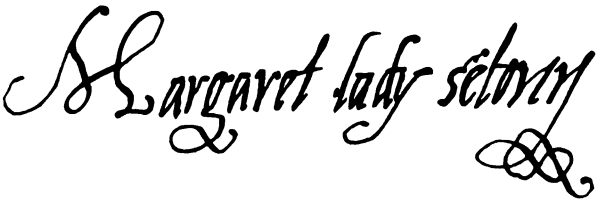
At Setoune, 11 Nouember 1612.
To the Erell of Eglintoune.

Margaret Lady Setoun, Countess Dowager of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, her son, 19th November 1612.

25. Loving sone—I ressauvit both your letters vpon the auchtene of this instant moneth of November; and I sie ze have no certaintie of zour hame cuming as zit, becaus ze have gottin na thing done with His Maiestie as zit. Quhair in my last letters I wrait to zow to cum hame, bot if ze have not gottin zour turne done before this letter cum into zour hands, I wald not wiss zow to be so suddene; for my Lord Chancellor is to be thair schortlie, direct be the Counsall to His Maiestie. I feir that thir dolorous dayes hes hinderit zow that zour turnes ar not done. I wold be verie sorie that ze sould cum away with that disgrace wnseing His Maiestie; thairfoir I had rather ze sould stay, althoght to zour gritter chairges, nor to cum hame vtherwayes. As for zour adoes heir at thes terme, they ar at ane reasonable goode poynt; for I ressauit from my Lord of Linlithgow twentie thowsand merks, and vther ten quhilk I pat to it and satisfeat Jacob Edmestoun. Thair is vther ten thowsand merks, wherof their is sum of it gane to the west cuntrie to satisfie creditors thair; and the rest of it is to pay sum annuellis in this toun, as zour self and Robert Setoun knoues: I have gevin the six hundreth punds to William Dick. As for the siluer that come from the west cuntrie, is all to satisffie annuellis and debts; and we have not depursit anie of it heir, bot hes directit it all hame agane to satisfie thair so far as it may go. As for vther news, thair hes bene trysting betwene my Lord of Loudoun and Sir James Ker; bot so far as I can learne they did not mekle; bot my Lord of Loudoun desyrit them to gif him twentie thowsand pundis befoir he pat hir and hir actiouns in thair hands, quhilk they did not at that time condiscend thairto: bot zit I heir he is zit seiking to them, bot I think so far as I can learne the gentlman hes no will to by pleys; and notwithstanding of all this deilling with them, he is also deilling with me to sie quhat we wald offer to him. As for my awin pairt, I said it was ane matter quhilk I could do nathing quhill zour hamecuming: for my pairt I can sie nothing bot he fishis in all watters,

to sie how he can mak his profeit and commoditie be that gentlwoman; and be appeirance hes ane gritter regaird to that than to hir weill. As for my ant, sho is not in this toun, bot is to be in within ane fyftene dayes efter my Lord of Loudoun his hame going. So having no forder, bot all freinds ar in goode helth heir, desyring to heir the lyke of zow and zours, with ane good succes of zour turnes; committis zow to God his halie protectioun, rests

Zour loving mother at power,

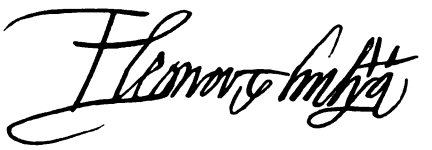


Edinburgh, the 19 of November 1612.
To my loving sone, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Eleanor Countess of Linlithgow to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter, 24th November 1612.

26. Madame and loving dochter — My werie hartlie commendatiouns rememberit: I haif resauit zour letter. Quhairas ze haif writtin for sum carage hors to bring zour carag out of Craigiehall heir, I haif spokin me lord for that effect; and thair will be ane doson of hors thair on Thursday tymouslie at morne. As for tumeler cairttis, thair is nan heir. As for my cairt it is broken; bott I haif causit command thame to bring hochemes, creills and tedderis with thame. As concerning me Lord of Louden, I heir be my lord that it is lyk to tak na effect; and as for me Lord Kilsyth, me lord and he hes endit their blok. Nocht farder, bott remember my comendationis to my Lady Seytoun, zour gud mother, and me Lady Perthe: committis zow to God, and restis

Zour evir assurit lovinge mother,



Linlythgow Palic, the xxiiii of November 1612.

Ze sall remember my commendatiounis to me lord zour husband quhen ze writt to him.
To my verie honorabill guid lady and loving dochter, my Lady Countes of Eglantoune.

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, 17th April 1613.

27. My verry honnourable Lord and lovinge brother—In regairde of the gritt paine I haive hadd in my heide, as also throucheoutt my haille body, this gritt quhylle bygaine, quhilk does zitt continou

and increase daylie in gritter meassure with me, am forced to entreat for excuse at zour lordships handes; beinge otherways most willinge to haive satisfied zour lordships desyre, if possibly I could haive beine abble to haive borne your lordships companie, with the rest of our honnourable freindes thair, at this tyme; as I doutt not bot our brother John cann geive zour lordship gritter assurance thairof, in respect he has seinne whatt hes beine my estaitte thir dayes bygaine. As for my excuse to my lady our mother, I did remember the same in ane pairte to hir ladyship zesterday: I will leuke also zour lordship will favour me in so far as to schau the contentes heirof to zour aune lady; assuring my selfe that in regairde of my presente estaitte, hir ladyship will not mistruste my willingenes to doe hir ladyship honnoure or service. So till nixt occasioune, or your lordships farther employmente, my humble deutie with service being remembered to zour lordships selfe, with zour lady, as also to my lady our mother, and sister, with the haille remanente of our honnourable freindes thair conveinned, I rest as ever,

Zour lordships most loving and deutifull brother to serve zou,

Wastnidrie, 17 of Aprylle 1613.

To my verry honnourable lord and lovinge brother,
my Lord of Eglintoune.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Lords of Privy Council [May 1613].

28. Maist Noble and maist Honorable good Lords — In all humilitie and reuerence, I craue your honours pardoun and fauourable interpretatioun for my absence at this tyme, being cited to compeir befoir your lordships to heir and sie me dischairgit at our Souerane Lord his instance, fra all assuming wnto my self the style or tytill of an earle, as if I had na farther right thairto, other nor be contract past betuix me and wmquhyll Hew last Earle of Eglintoun. I mynd neuer, my Lords, to present myself in judgment, nor to na vther place, to be in onie sort opposite to onie thing I may wnderstand is my maist gracious Souerane his pleasure, albeit the same sould proceid from sinistrous informatioun, mistaking or hard apprehensioun: I am resolued, as it is mair seamlie for me, and sutable to these I haue the honour to be discendit of, rather to spend my bloode, my lyfe, and all I may claime to, in the mantenance and advancement of his sacred will, and all his royall commandementis. I haue neuertheles thoght necessar to present herewith wnto your honours eies, sic right and tytill as I haue to the style and honour of Earldome of Eglintoun (albeit vnworthie of the same), na les nor to the lands, lordships, baronies, patronages and hail pertinents of that hous and leiung; to wit, ane tailzied chairtour authorised be his Maiesties great seall, and ane retour out of his maist gracious Maiesties chancellarie, past be ordinar forme of tryell be ane assyss of a sufficient number of maist ancient, noble, and worthie men, and peirs of this kingdome, the onlie best, maist sure and laufull grounds, wherby I could euer wnderstand lands, dignities, or onie sic thing as men desyres and aspires to, might maist suerlie be acquyred and injoyed in this estait. These I entreat your honours fauour tak the paines to vieu

and consider, and, in your great wisdome, advyse if there be not sufficient warrands to me for all I acclame or pretend to, sa lang as the same stands nather reschindit nor challenged be ordinar cours of lau, befoir the ordinar judges of this kingdome in all ciuill caussis and tytles: Quairin, if anie just caus of quarrell or challenge war, be anie defect, ather in substance or formalitie, as the samyn wald requyre wther witts nor myne, experienced in laus and formalities, to defend and mantene the same; so knau I well your honours is not in custome in this judicatorie of priuie counsall, nor wald neuer giue audience to anie sic disputatioun foundit vpon sic autentick writts and tytills; bot wald remit the samyn to the ordinar cours of lau, to the audience of our Souerane Lords College of Justice, and Lords of Sessioun, ordinar judges to all sic causis in this estait. Quhilk cours I houp your honours will insinuat (efter the sight of these my writts) to our maist gracious Souerane, tp be maist convenient for to be folloued in this also. If anie pairtie (quhilk I houp nan sall haue just caus to do) think themselfs greued in anie thing I acclame, quhen euer sic actioun sall be intendit befoir the ordinar judge, if I be not found to haue sufficient ansueirs and defences, quhateuer is tane fra me in that forme, being done in ordinar cours of justice, can neuer carie to me discredit nor disgrace, may weill mak me the les able, sall na wayes impair my good will to serue in all affectioun, with all sic as sall rest behind with me, our dread souerane lord. If I war present I could say nane vther bot this, the novaltie of this forme of actioun will excuse I houp in your favourable dispositiouns this wncouth forme of my ansueir be writ in absense: I knaw not if I sould terme it a defence or declinator. Your honours, I dout not, will wey the importance of this matter, and to what consequence sic a preparatiue may draw. Quhat euer your lordships sall resolue here anent, I sall alwayes honour and reuerence as becomes me. And rather nor my absence sould be in onie sort offensiue to your honours, if it be your will and command, I offer myself, vpoun your intimatioun to the delyuerer heirof, to rander myself befoir your lordships, vpon quhat schort tyme sall pleis you appoynt, to receaue all your honorable commandements, lyk as I rest for euer,

Your honours, in all humilitie, maist affectionat seruitor,

EGLINTOUN.

The Lords of Privy Council to King James VI., 18th May 1613.

29. Most Gracious Souerane — According to your Maiesteis directioun, we causit charge Sir Alexander Seytoun to compeir befoir ws this xviii of Maij, to haif hard and seene him dischargeit of all assumeing vnto himself the style, title, rank and dignitie of ane Erll. He compeirit be Sir Williame Seytoun, his vncle, who first protestit that seeing, be the contract, infeftmentis and prouisionis, maid to the said Sir Alexander of the landis, leving and erldome of Eglintoun, he wes oblist to tak the name of Montgomerie, whilk he did acknowledge as his proper name, and wald not nor could not acknowledge ony vther name; that thairfoir his ansuering to thir summondis in the termes as wer consauit, in the name of Sir Alexander Seytone, sould infer no hurte, preiudice nor inconuenient vnto him: and then he produceit ane lettre vnder the said Sir Alex-

ander his hand, whilk we haif heirwith send vp to your Maiestie, conteining the excuse of his not compeirance, and the defensses whilkis he had to vse in this matter, being groundit vpoun ane heritable infeftment of tailyes, past your Maiesties grite seale with all solempniteis requisite, and vpoun ane re(tour) of your Maiesties Chancellarie, past be ane ordinar forme of inqueist of ane nomber of no(bilmen), whairby the said Sir Alexander wes served as narrest and lauchfull air of tailye to the last Erll of Eglintoun. For verification whairof, he produceit the infeftments foirsaid, grantit to the last Erll of Eglintoun and his airis maill lauchfullie to be gottin of his body; quhilkis failyeeing, to the said Sir Alexander and his airis specifeit in the said infeftments, of the haill landis, leving and erldome of Eglintoun, with the officeis and what els belonged thairunto: and he lykewayes produceit the retour and seruice foirsaid, following vpoun the said infeftment, whairby the said Sir Alexander wes servit air as said is. Quhilk infeftment and retour being at lenthe seene, considderit and examined be ws, it wes fundin, be the haill voiceis of the table, that the disputations whilkis wald result and aryse thairupoun, could not be proper nor competent to be handlit in this iudgement, bot behooffit to abyde be the course of law in the ordinar iudgement of the sessioun; and thairfoir we thoght meete that this matter sould rest and ly ouer till your Maiesteis forder pleasour wer knowne, nowayes bot your Maiestie, in the sinceritie of your royall hairt and dispositioun, whiche is weele groundit vpoun infallible reasonis of equitie and iustice, will gratiouslie accept this our refusaill to tak vpoun ws the decisioun of a matter nowayes fitting nor competent to our placeis; since the matter may be formalie handlit, and orderlie and summarlie prosequuted in the awne place and iudgement. And so praying God to grant vnto your Maiestie ane lang, happie, and prosperous reigne, we rest,

Your Maiesties most humble and obedyent subiectis and seruitouris,

	AL. CANCELL^{R}.	R. COKBURNE.
Edinburgh, 18 May 1613.	J. HAMILTON.	ALEX^{R}. HAY.
	ABERCORNE.	A. DRUMMOND.
To the King his most sacred and excellent Maiestie.	LINLYTHGOW.	G. MURRAY.
	JO. PRESTOUN.	

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, his wife, 21st June [1613?].

30. My hert—My most louing deutie rememberitt to zou and all zour coumpanie, vithe my seruis to my lady our mother. I haue bein this day seine my lord our brother and sister, vho hes bein bothe very euille atteise, and is mendin very vekly. I did neuer sie any of them in the fasoun. I houp the vorst of bothe ther seiknes is past. I haue meid zour excus to them, and they did exsep it most gledly; for thy say thay do knau that ze ar not ebeill to trauille as ze ar for the present. I am beissie doine my tourins, that I may deispache my self homuard to zou so soun as I can. I have not mett as zeit upon our merches withe my Lord of Loudoun; bot is to meitt on of thir tou or thrie days, and therefter to go vast to Counigam to do the rest of our tourins. As

for neuis I have non, bot that my Lady Sempeill is deleyuer of ane docheter. Sue wissing zou all helthe and happines, I rest Zour most louing housbande till dathe,

Ponoun, 21 June.

To my best belouit — Eglintoun.

Margaret Countess of Dunfermline to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 17th September 1613.

31. My mest worth self — This present is to kreuf pardin for bygein sellinis, as lykwyis to acknalege my oblegecoun to zour ladyschip for the manye faffauris I haue reseuit in zour last, quhilk in ne sorrt I can attriboutit to any merit of my auin; bot out of zour ladyschips auin courtisie, it is plist zou chau me theis faffauris, quhilk I sall be cerfull to deseruc, and wosis I may haue that happines as to find the ocausoun quher to I may gif prouf till zour ladyschip of my doutiefull gudwoll. Ther suld be nein in the wareld mor redy to dischergis the same nor I: so til new ocausioun, I rest as I sall euer remein, Zour most affectiounatt self to do zow service,

Dalgatie, 17 September 1613.

Let this beir testimonie of my humel deutie to my lord zour hisband, my Lady Wentoun, and my Lady Perth.

To my honorabill good lady, my Lady Countis of Eglintoun.

Sir William Seytoun of Kylesmure to Anna Countess of Eglintoun [1613].

32. Gude Madame — I recaiuit ane letter from my gude Ladye Jaene, wherein ther is soumething concerning my lord zour ladyships husband, zour ladyships self, and my Lady Perthe; bot that till meitting, quhilk, Godwilling, salbe within summe three or foure dayes att farrest. The maist essenciall poyntes off hir ladyships letter did referre me to the farther wretine be hir ladyship to my Lord Chancellar. Thir tua dayes bygaine his lordship was werey desyrous to haiue mette with me, and to that effect sente euiree daye to me; bot till this daye my haelthe did nocht permitt me to see his lordship. Wee haiue aduysit and consydderit off all the thounnering blastes that arre intendit at courte, deuysit heire, and pairt nocht off the smallest allraedee presumit comme doune, thocht nocht as zit comme to leicht; and findes my lord zour husbandes estaite and credit heicheler schotte att, bot nocht meikell to be doutit, be Godis grace, if wee will

gouuerne richt. As for the proiectis off wnfrendes, his Maiesties passiouns, wee sall in that, as occasioun offers (becaus I houpe wee sall haiue libertie off conference togeither before graet mater kythe thairin), foresee the nixt best in the aune tyme. Bot knawing as wee doe quhatt is intendit, and haiueing sua gude ane opportunite off ane berar as Mr. James Raethe, quho is to depairte towartis courte the morne, my Lord Chancellar hes aduysit me to wrette and desyr zour ladyship to acquent Hir Maiestie with the estaite off thingues as wee are informet, and kyndelee to wrett to my Lady Jaene, bothe with thankes for hir bygaine kyndeness, and intraete for hir ladyships contenuance; wissing hir ladyship to consydder off my Lord Chancellars letter derect att the present ansuer to hir ladyship, quhairewith it maye plaese hir ladyship to acquent Hir Maieste as occasioun sall offer: becaus my Lord Chancellar, bothe to my Lady Jaene and to my Lord off Fentoun, hes wretine weree particularlee and maistc aduysblee, quhilk I haiue seine, (summe thingue I haiue wretine my self). The subiect zour ladyship hes to insiste with Hir Maieste in zour letter, and the grounds quherwpon my Lady Jaene hes to intertainne Hir Maieste wpon to daelle stoutelee with His Maieste in, as ane maitter that tuitches Hir Maiestes honour and His Maiesteis bothe, is,

That as first by nature zour ladyship hadde the honour to be ane noblemans eldest dochter, thaire efter for zour graeter hadde the honnour from zour infancee to be traeint in my Lady Eleizabethes Palatines seruice, and for zour ladyships graeter honour hadde seruit Hir Maieste self, and being dismisset bothe with credit, gude recompance, and promeiss off graetter fauour off Hir Maiestie, haiueing in zour aune persounne done nothingue in preiudice off thais honouris nature and zour better happe hadde grantit zow; to see all ranuersit be fantasee to zour schaime, against all lawe and ordour, Hir Maieste hadde pairte off interest; since zour ladyship hadde wrecht zour estaites, bothe be Hir Maiesties aduyse and of zour parrentis, persuadit Hir Maiestie hadde acquentit His Maiestie heirewith, (quhairein zour ladyship maune insist with my Lady Jaene to cause Hir Maiestie makke the Kinke beleiue His Maiestie was acquentit with zour mariage, and did allowe of the samme): and if it haudde nocht beine cleire be lawe and practique of this countree, without all doutte or question, efter doue aduysement be all the best menne off lawe quhois aduyse could be hadde, that wndoutelee, my lord zour husband was prouydit in most assurit and competent forme to the erldome, honouris and lands off Egleington, and barrones apparteining to the samme, wauld euer my lord zour father haiue bestawit zow, his elder dochter, with so graet soummes; or sua weille trainit, wauld ze haiue bestawit zour self sua baisselee, hauing zour zounger sister, with less meines and feuar holpes, sua honorable matchet? Lyke as Hir Maiestie maye bauldelee saye hir grace wauld neuer haiue geiuen her consent to zour mariage if the estaite off that erldome hadde nocht beine assurit in zour husbands persoune. To qualifie zour husbands assurit richt, ze craiue no more fauour bot that it will plaese His Maiestie, in this question off Egleington, to daelle as His Maiestie did in the maitter of the erldome off Angus; quhair his grace hadde richt nocht onlee to the honouris, bot eiuen to the haille propertee off the lands be graetter pretence. Latte his

Maiestes lawer before the ordinaree judge decyde quhatt in honour or lands is pretendit wnto be quhatsoumeuer as may be menteinit be lawe; and this is with the hardest to haiue the prence pairte without all desert: and his heiness lawer and offisars judges zit her it summe forme, bot absolutelee against all lawe, to commande His Maiesties Counsall to dischairge ane nobleman lawfullee prowydit to his estaite, to bruikke his estait and honour, Hir Maiestie maye desyre His Maiestie to consydder quhow haiuee and wnaccustomat that wilbe thocht. This meikill aduysit betuixt my Lord Chancellar and me to be subiect to zour ladyships letters: the substance zour ladyship canne better dispose wpon the samme. There salbe no falte to reserue ane copee with zour self off that ze wreitte att the present, becaus thaire moste be more wretine schortelee, and it salbe necessaire to knowe quhat ze haiue wretine. All farther till meitting. My seruice rememberit to zour ladyships self, my gude ladye, and to my Ladye Perthe, quhom I moste calle my sueite ladye, becaus sua schoe is, and I doute nocht wilbe thocht I wische with the best sorte. M^r. James Raethe wilbe att zour ladyship aither the morne att nicht, or ells on Weddensdaye tymelee. My Lady Wentoune maune seikke fourthe the geifte of the nonentree grantit to my lord zour husband off the erldome off Egleingtoun, and haiue it att me the morne be nyne howres. I sall bringue it bakke with me. Sua restis

Your ladyships moste assurit to serve zow,

To the richt noble his weree gude lady, my Ladye and Countess of Egleingtoun.

Lady Jane Drumond to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 17th March [1613].

33. Sweet sister — I woll wse no serymonys, nether to thank yow for your cyndnes, nor exceus my self for wryting so sildum to yow: my redynes to serve yow shall recompane the first; and beliue I will not neglect the last, bot whan I am as it war compelld, ether be my attendanc or sum wther nesiser bissines, which I know your discresion will exceus. Whan the King went from this efter the marieg, ther was no word of your husband his bissines; it lay as ded, as I remember I wrett so to your husband, which I hop or this he hes resaued: bot I heir sens sum good body hes wakned that sogett, for I haue hard ther is sum comission sent doun to the counsall conserning him; bot no body can say better for yow then yei haue said: patienc and a good caus ouercums at last. It griues me infinitly that it shuld be so crost; bot that is all wimen can do, to griue at ther frinds truble. I protest to God, sister, I shuld haue thocht my self hapy if I could haue done good in this errand of your husbands, and what I can do shall be euer raedy. Sister, for your kynd offer to send me linnin and acquauita, I humbly thank yow; bot without serymony lat me intret yow not to do it to I desyr yow, which without serymony I shall do whan I haue wse of any. Yow haue many hwses to furnisih, it war a pitie to giue yow to much ado at ons: God send yow happines in

them, and I hop yit to be mirry with yow in sum of them. So praying yow remember my seruice to my lord yowr husband, be confident that I shall ever remain

Your ladyships faithfull sister to serue yow,

The 17 of March.

To the richt honorable my loueing sister, the Countes of Egleintoune.

The same to the same, 2nd June [1613].

34. Sweet sester — Sens my coming to this toun I haue resaiued tow of yours, both to exceus to her Maiesti the crisning of your sone. Wpon the reset of your first, I durst say nothing to the Quin, lest her Maiesti had asked for a sicht of the letter; and yee wret only how sory yee war that the chyld was crisned befor yee knew her Maiesti wald do yow the honor. This I thocht micht be mistaekn be her Maiesti, and she micht haue thocht yee war vary sodan that wald not stay her ansar; also that her Maiesti micht haue suspecttid Kilsyth without yowr comission to haue inuited her to the crisning; so I said nothing to her Maiesti, and desyred Margaret Morray not to delyuer the letter your ladyship sent her for the Quin, fering it had bin wretne in the sam fasson: bot wpon the resait of your last, wharin yee wryt the chyld was sik, and that the crisning was be nesessatie, I aquentid her Maiesti thairwoth; also of the letters your ladyship returned. Her Maiesti did not tak the crisining ill, nor of the tokne her Maiesti said nothing when I told her the gentillman had sent yow the letters, bot had keipt the tokne to his auin coming: so as I think your ladyship nids not tak mor notis of the tokne, only it shall be well done to wryt to the Quin thanks for that her Maiesti wald haue done yow such ane honor; and exceus the crisning. Exceus this scribling, for it is in hest and without serimony. Beliue that I shall euer remain raedy to do zow seruic. JANE DRUMOND.

I intret your ladyship remember my seruic to my sister. If I can haue tym, I will wryt to her, and to my lord your husband, to whom I wish in all his affairs als good sucses as his auin hert can desyre.

From the Bathe the 2 of June.

The same to the same [1613].

35. Sweet sister — In my last I wrot sumthing conserning the letter yee wret to her Maiesti; the ansur of which it will ples yow now resaiu. I can not well say what is in it, for I protest to God I neuer sae it with in; nor nid yee spek of it to any, bot as the soget contents yow either show it or consell it. God blis yow with all hapines, and sertanly I think it shall be both mor hapienes

and content to yow, then if yee had gotne the Erll of Casels. I intret yow sister remember my seruic to my lord and lady, and to your brother, to whom with your self I wish all hapines.

Your ladyships most affectioned sister to serue yow,

To the right honorable the Lady Anne Leuingstone. J. DRUMOND.

Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to her sister-in-law Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 16th August [1614?].

36. Deir sister — I do asschour my self that ze will not be offendit with my so long seylence, for so schone as I deid returne out of the Sneuk, I vald be no longer seylent, bot hes, at this tyme, ten occatioune, vith this beirer, to creaue you pardon for not sending your feder to as zit. And at this tyme, I hade it readie to geif the beirer heirof; but he schev me that he vald not veill get it cearied home to yov, in respek that he hade a hors leiding home into his hand. Bot I sall not fell to send it into the toune, to meit with Mr. Morray. And I look for his returne to this againe to morrov at nicht. Sueit sister, if ze do meit vith Mr. Moray, I kno ze vill remember your friends vo is mor nor bound to yov already. I praye yov, sister, lett not my leadie, our mother, trubll hir self in bying much vylde meitt to your son's bapttisme; for all that is to be hade in thir peairts. I sall haue thame at yov on Fryday at nicht. I have be-spokin some keids and souking lams thairto; and thes vil be dentis to be hade at this tym of the zeir. If in any thing els I can serue yov to any vs betuix and then heir, let me intret yov to aduertis me. I most intret yov, deir sister, to presente my seruice to my deir mother. I leaikit no good vill to vryt to hir ladyship; bot for seike respeks as I kno at first ze vile conceider, I vold not vryt to her ladyship vith this beirer. Remembring my loue to your housband,

I rest, in haist, your most louing sister to serve yow,

Mostour, the 16 Agust. I. S.

Sueit sister, do me the fafour as to geif your tua sueit sons and my anne dochter twenty keisis for me. I long to heir of my vyf's good helth. I leiue in hop to sei hir ather heire, [or] in any peairt els vhairsoeuer sche vill comand me to comme to hir.

To the right honorable and my verie louing sister, the Countes of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 8th November 1614.

37. My honorable dear sister — I haue resauid your last and keynd letter; and vhar ze vryt to me that ze wish it var in your pouar to giue me such testimonie of your wnchangable affectionc as ze desyre, beleiuid sueit sister, I haue hade a too greit proufe of your loue already to expek any scheance on your seyd vithout greit caus on my peairt, vhilk vhilst I leiue sall neuer be: bot my desyre sall euer increce, bot neuer demeineich, to deserue the conteinnouance of your sisterlie loue and affection. It is my greitest desyre to haue hade the contentment to sie yow, and to haue in that small mousour requat a peair of your greit loue to me, by attending and beiring yow companie so long as I could possiblie gett done; bot seiknes hes nov debarid

me that hapyines to my regrait: bot since that tyme is gon, I hope thaire is a good tym for vs to meit couming efter this. I can not veill commit it to peper vhat seiknes it is that I haue hade, bot at ald Mariouns couming to your ladyship I sall lett yov kno of it at lenthe. I preay yow, sister, if your housband be coumid home, so schone thairefter as ze can haue any occatioune of beirers, lett me resaue the contentment as to kno of his lordships good returne againe to yow: and I most intret yow, sweit sister, to aduertis me if euer my sister in lav me Ladie Roxbrouch did enter in ony pourpos vith my brother, anent ather my self or my dochter; and if scho did, I hope euen as scho spake to my brother ze vill lett me kno in your first to me againe, and if the Queins Maiestie did speik any thing to his Lordship of me. Remitting all outher things till Meariouns couming, vhilk vilbe now schortlie, I rest

Your ladyships wnschengable sister to serue yow,

Mostour, the 8 of Nouember 1614. I. Setoun.

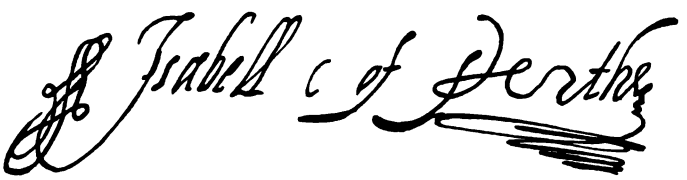
I most not forzett my loue to my sueit seruand, Lord Hew, and his brother, vho I grein to sie befor he go out of Setoun fre yow. Deir sister, geif thir tov lyns leiue to present my humble seruice to our deir mother, and my bleissing to my dochter, vho can not long so much to sie me as I do to sie hir, if I could covme as zit to hir.

To the right honorable and my verie louing sister, the Countes of Eglintoun.

The same to the same [c. 1614].

38. Deir sister — Heauing the commodeti of this beirer Mark Setoun, I can not chous bot be thir few leynis perform my promeis med to you at our sindering. Not for any vorthei sugett that I heaue to trubill zow vith at this tym; bot that, in this small sort, ze may sei how villing I am to lett you knov that I am not vnmyndfull of zow, and the rest of your govd compani, whom I assur yov Sir Jhone Setoune and his leady dois never forzett at dener and supper to drink to yow all. Trust me, deir sister, I long to heir of your return back agane; for I am a grit dell doylder heir then I am in Setoun. Not that I vant good mirie compani: For that, I assure you, I do not vant, so far as Sir Jhon Setoun and his vyf can mak me blyithe. I most not forzet, sueit sister, to give yov thanks for your keyn remembranses that it pleisit zov to send me. God villing, I sall veir it till I sei yow. Sister, my peper will suffer me to seay no mor at this tym, bot only to intret yov to remember my commendatiouns of seruice to my leady our mother, and to zour housband vith the rest of brither, I rest

Zour louing sister to deathe,



Jean Ruthvaine to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 29th January 1614.

39. Right honorable — According to yoor ladyships directiones in yoor note, I haue boght such things as yow desyred. As for a resting chyre lyk to my Lady Roxburghs, I did enquyre at an upholster the pryce of itt, and he told me if it werr of beitch wood it woold cost xxxv s., and if it werr of walnote tree it wold cost l s.; ather of them without bottomes wilbe chepper. As for the piccadaill, I haue boght it of the best fashone; and as for lace to be a band and cuffs, and square with long peaks, pleas yoor ladyship know that it is not the fashon to weare such now, and therfore I haue boght such a one as all doo vse at court; such a one directly as my mistress wears, of the best Flanders lace I coold gett. If yoor ladyship does not lyk of it, send it againe, and yow shall haue such as yow desyre. As for the bowat of whyt iron, plese yoor ladyship know I boght one of the fairest I coold find in Londone, and of the best light; the casements of it is not of horne, but of Moscouia glas, such a thing as will nether bow nor brek easelie: and becaus I feared ther coold none of them be had in Scotland, I sent eght of them for fear of breking of the rest. As for burning, yoor ladyship may hold it to the low of a candell, and it will not burne; but if it be weyped it wil be als cleir as euer it was. I giue your ladyship many thanks for all yoor honorable kyndnessis, and namly for my acauyty. My cousing and hir husband lykways giues yoor ladyship many thanks for yoor herings, and remembers thear humbleest deutys to your ladyship; and woold glaidly know in what they can do yoor ladyship seruice. My cousing hath been deady seek these tenn weeks, and it is thoght her chyld is dead in hir belly, and hath been these ten weeks; and at this instant is so weak that thear small hop of her health, which hath bein the caus that I did not dispatch yoor ladyships bussines sooner. I haue not boght yoor ladyship niddills, becaus I know yow may haue better and better cheap in Scotland then heir. As for the leume, your ladyship shall receaue in this note als much knouledge as I can give without sight; but with sight it is very easee. Any other seruice yoor ladyship wilbe pleased to command me to do, I wilbe both willing and reddy to performe it. So with the rememberance of my humblest deuty to yoor ladyship, I commit yow to God, and rests euer

Yoor ladyships most humble to be commanded,

Whythall, xxix of Januarii 1614. JEANE RUTHUAINE.

To the right honorable and my most woorthee lady, the Countess of Eglingtone. These.

Margaret Countess of Dunfermline to the same, 2nd March [1614?].

40. My most worthie self — At the reseit of your last, I was so grefed at my sonis siknis that I culd not for that tyme wryit anye, becaus I exspektit nothing bot deid for him; but now thanks to God he is well, excep som thing trebolt with the cold. My Ladie Wonton, yowr frind, ded me the fafour to com wisit me, cho can chaw you at miting qwhat resin I had to conjakter the warst. I

resewit letly word frome my lord my hisband; he is well thanks to God: I do not exspek is home-coming, till efter Pes. No nowis I hard of for sartintie, bot Ser James Fulartine is to be merit with my Ladie Kellos: it is dowin or now. I hear of nows letly comit to thes town, but no greit warant for them, that Ser John Degbe, efter is arayfell in Ingland, presently was comitit to the Towar. I thank yow for the cer your ladyschip his to know of my good asteit, qwch is allwys the beter that ye be well, and ewer the mor affekcownit incresing your happienis as be comis

Your slef most lowfing to sawer yow,

MARGRET HAY.

I intrit yow lat ther remimber my lowefing dowtie to my lord yowr fether, and my ladie, your ladyschips mother, and lykwys to my ladie, your good sister.

Edembroght, the 2 Merch.

To the right honourable and my most worthy, the Cowntis of Eglintone.

Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, 5th March [1615?].

41. Madame — Luifing dochter, I reseuit zowris the fourt of this instant, wnderstanding therby my lord my sone, zour self, and all the bairnes to be in guid helth, quhairof I wes very glaid. We heir ar all weill, praisit be God. My dochter as zit is weill; bot luiking daylie quhen that guid hour sall cum, quhilk sall no sunner fall out bot incontinent zow sall be adverteisit. I thank zow for zour aquavitie quhilk ze writt of; as zit it is not cume, bot the berer schawies it is on jorney. We haif no newis worthie the writting. This, eftir my very luifing dewtie rememberit to my lord my sone, to zour ladyships self, and to all the bairnes and gud compane ther, I rest euer,

Zour ladyships luifing mother to be commandit,

Setoun, 5 Merch. MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

Marion and Kait gifis zow many blissings for zour guid remembrance of them.

To my honorable and luifing dochter, my Lady Countes off Eglintoun.

Alexander Earl of Dunfermelyne to King James VI., 16th March 1615.

42. Maist Sacred Soueraine — . . . . . This may not mak me forgett nor omitt my deutie, in all humilitie and thankfulnes of hairte, to acknowledge yiour sacred Majesties greatte bountifulnes and gracious dispositioun, in granting to my nefuieu (whome I may now, be yiour sacred Majesteis fauour and permissioun, stile Earle of Eglintoun) that honour and dignitie whilk sua manye of his predecessoures enjoyed, and whairbye thai haue done to yiour Maiesties maist nobill progenitours good and acceptabill seruice: I hope in God yiour Majesty shall find him prowe nather onwoorthie nor encapabill of yiour royall fauour, as your Highness may haiffe occasioun to

imploye him. Sua, wischeing to yiour Highness, from the King of all kings, a lang and properous regne, withe the submisse kisse of yiour royall hand, restis

Your maist sacred Maiesties maist humbill and obedient subject and seruitour,

Edinburght, 16 Martij 1615. DUNFERMELYNE.

Alexander Earl of Dunfermeleyne to John Murray of Lochmaben, one of the Bedchamber to King James VI., 16th March 1615.

43. Right honourable and wellbeloued cousing — Your letters of the first instant, concerning the finall end of the Earle of Eglintoun's besines, came not heir before the 13th instant. All that bisines is now (praised be God) in all points, according to his sacred Maiesties will and pleasour, endit; and my Lord Secretair, in presence of the counsall, has deliuered to my Lord his infeftment, with his speache, as he had in directioun frome his Maiestie. Wee haue giuin baith to my Lord Secretair, and to my Lord off Glasgow, all thankis; and has testified to thame baith, quhow far wee onderstand be yiow, this earand has been aduanced be thair guid report and aduys. I will nocht extend me self to gif yiow monye thankis, the earand itself, and the diuerse toiles and facheries I haue had in it, bindis me to acknowledge myself in all deutie bound to yiow: this I can assure yiow, thair is nathing contentis me mair in the haill course of this besines, nor that my speciall obligatioun for the guid success thairin, onder his sacred Maiesty, is to yiow onlye: quhat neidis mair? Friendis and kinsmen as wie are man daylie be doand to otheris all guid offices thay can, eurie ane in his vocatioun, place and calling: reckin ye may spend me as onye yie haue maist powar off . . . I haue also includit in the said leter, my humbill and hartlie thankis for this preferment to my nefuieu Eglintoun. I haue no farder for the present, bot to remember my hartlie kindness to your good half-marrow. Sua wissing yiow baith all happiness and contentment, I reste

Your maist affectionat cousing to serue yiou,

From Edinburgh, 16 Marche 1615. DUNFERMELEYNE.

This our langsum and fashious besines of Eglintoun being now, be yiour mediation, wrought to sa guid end, yie will doe me singular pleasour, be yiour guid commoditie, to lat me knaw quhat was our greatest lattis or impedimentis, or quha was our greatest corseris.

To the right honorabill my weelbeloued cousen, Johne Morray of his sacred Maiesty's Bedchaemer.

Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, her son, 13th April [1615?].

44. My verie goode lord and loveing sone — I ressauit your letters from Sir Johne Setoun; mervelling mekle that ye schew me not of that accident that fell out be Rowallane and your baillie

officiar. Rowallane younger hes bein heir, and affirmes that thair was no wrang done by his father, in regaird your officiar came thair quietlye, bot as ane nightbour, and nather kythit nor namit himself ather to be the King his officiar, nor yours; quhilk, if it be as he sayes, and never namit himself to be your baillie officiar, and was not first apprehender of the men, I think thair is no wrang done. Bot if it be as Sir William your wncle hes schawin wnto ws sensyne, and that he not onlye namit himself your officiar onlye, bot for declaratioun of the samyn tooke witnessis thairvpon, I think he hes done wrang. Alwayes I will advyse yow not to be instant in that bussines, till ye try quhither your officiar did his office dewlye or not, and that he had gottin command of your baillie depute or not, quhais command, if the officiar gat not, Rowallane will be fund in no wrang: notwithstanding, howsoever, in regaird his sone hes been heir, and requeistit both my self and my Lord of Wintoun, your brother, to continew the samyn till my Lord Chancellor his comeing to the buriall, at quhilk tyme, if thair be onie wrang done, his father will, at the sight of your freinds, do all satisfactioun thairanent. In the meintyme, wishing yow not to lose the gentlmen without it tuiche your honor or priviledge, the continewance of aucht or ten days can be nowayes prejudiciall to onye order that is to be tane thairanent. So I will desyre yow to tak exact tryall and the advys of your freinds before ye proceid onye farther in that matter. Thair ar too manye to yoke men to trouble, bot not halfe so cairfull or foirseing how they sall ridd them out of it agane. The mother of mischeif is no more (as the proverb goeth) then a midge wing. If ze may keip gentlmen, and be repairit to your honor, I think it standeth with credit. So having no forder for the present bot my love remembrit wnto your self, with my blissing to your bairnes, committs yow to God, and rests

Your lordships most loving mother at power,

Setoun, the 13 of Apryle. MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

Your sone Hew is in goode health, with all freinds heir, and hes his seruice remembrit to yow, and to my ladye his mother.

To my verie honorable lord and loving sone, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstoun, his Countess, 27th June 1615.

45. My sueitteste hert—I haue reseuit zour kynd letter, quhilk hes bred me gritt contentment to vnderstand of zour goud helthe and weillfair; quhilk I sall euer wise from my hert to continou. I am sertin and sour that ze heue reseuit ane letter of myn tou or thrie days befoir I reseuit this of zours; for it was the 26 of this instant befoir I reseuit zours. I hop, my sweitt hert, ze sall neuer haue iust ressoune to challence me vpon vnkyndnes, for I sall euer be and euer hess bein reddey to testifie my wnchangable affectione wnto zou; for I protest I haue no contentment in this vorld bot that quhilk I haue of zourself, and that I haue coum of zou. Sue assurring zou that I sall hest my retour bak to zou so soun as I can, ze sall caus reseue zour acauytie

from the beirrer, and ze sall ask and sie at my lady our mother agen quhat tym scho vill haue hir boutter prouidditt to: till zour advertissment I rest and remains euer zours,

Ponoun, 27 of June 1615. EGLINTOUN.

Ze sall remimber my louing deutie to all zour goud coumpanie: ze meid me belive in zours that my lady my mother had vrittin to me vith zour last, quhilk I did not reseue.

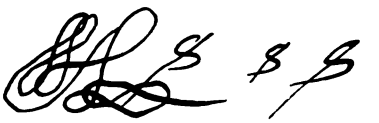
To my best belouitt C. of Eglintoun.

Anna Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, 11th October 1615.

46. My dearest sweet ♡.—My affectionat dewtie rememberd: This berer Edame Trumble haueing told me that ye had promissed to tak him wast with you, I haue now, be my ladie our mothers adwyss, derected him to goe to you; and lykways hes sent this to lat you know that all your frends hear ar weall, thanks to God, and Herie your sonne is better then ye left him: I causd wysh his moueth for the watter cancar, and Hew hes ane gret car of your litle dodgue. My Lord Chancler is to be in Pinkie this night, and I shall giue him to him befor his way going. I thoght to haue sent you the rentall bouk with this berer; but I know not if ye nid it. I doubt not, my hert, but ye will doe me the contentment to lat me hear from you so sun as ye can. Your mother, and brither, and sisters, hes them kyndlie rememberd vnto you: your good brother is gone to the Mostour, and hes desyrd his wyf to adwertis him when sche hears that ye will retourne; for he will not come hear till then. My sweet hert, so sune as yee can dispach your adois, hest you to me, for in your companie is my earthlie confort and gretest ioye. So praying the eternall God for all incres of helth and hapines vnto you, I rest

Yours most dewtifullie affectionat whilst I liue,

At Setoun, 11 October 1615.



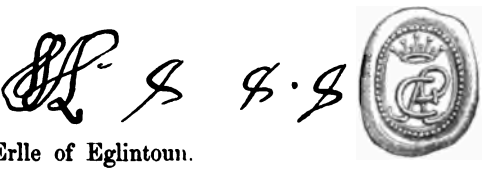
To the Erell of Eglintoun.

The same to the same.

47. My dear ♡—My unchangable affectione remember'd vnto you: Thes are to latt you know I am going this day to Glasgow, and tomorrow, God willing, to sie our berrens in Eglintoune. I haue left our daughter Margaret hear till my retourne, which wilbe so sune as I can, in respect of my ladie our mothers weaknes, who longs to sie you. Thus, till mitting, and euer recomends you and all your prosidings to the protectione and derectione of the Allmighty, and rests

Your most faithful louing spous till death,

Comarnald, this Wensday.



To my lord and weall beloued husband, the Erlle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 21st October 1615.

48. My dearest sweet O — I haue reseued your kynd weallcom letter and two hundereth pounds from this berer, which I shall giue Jhon Wood till he get the rest. My hert, I haue longed exsidinglie to hear from you; and altho I haue bein verie siklie sinc the wretin of my frist letter with Edie Trwnble, yet now I am better be the contentment I haue gottin in knowing be yours of your wealfear and good helth, which I pray God incress: I fear the tyme of my delyuerie shalbe sunar then Mertimess, but the longest I can rankin is 8 days efter it; so, my dear hert, I doubt not but ye will hest your retourn to me: yet if my sisters chyld be cristined shortlie, I wold not haue you to refus her, altho I know the bernis neam will be Hellionor efter my ladie my mother. I hear this porpos is giuin vp betwext my brother and the Ladie Rikartoun; so I wish my lord our father wold prouyd for him vtherways, and preuent all qwestions betwext him and his brother hearefter. My ladie your mother and bernes and all frends hear ar weall, thanks to God, and hes them kyndlie rememberd vnto you. I hear your cousing Sir Jhon Setoun is going to Court, and it is vnsertanlie spokin that his wyf gois with him. Al the newis from Court is that the King is causing the Chancler of Ingland try out the poysonning of M^r. Ouerberie, who deied in the Tour; and it is spokin that the Chamberland and his good mother, my Ladie Suffok, caused do it. All our frends at Court are weall, thanks to God. I haue sent with this berer ane vther letter to Hew Rallstoun from Ingland, conserning your horss. Thus longin to sie you my hert, and in the mein tyme I haue sent you this little ring to wear, praying God for manie long and prosperous dayes vnto you, I rest

Yours most deutifull affectionat whilest I haue lyf,

At Setoun, this Setarday, 21 October 1615.

Lady Margaret Levingstoun (afterwards Countess of Wigtoun), to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her sister, 10th April 1616.

49. My verie honorabill and loving sister — My most hartle dewtie being rememberit: I haue resauit zour twa letteris; and as for the gentilwoman that ze wrait to me for, I can not now tak hir in seruice, [in] respect that thess that is alredy with me is nocht to go fra me this terme: and albeit that Barbara Slowan be puffed vp be hir mother to seik ane hundreth merks of fie, or els to tak hir leave frae me, zit I am myndit to serue my self better cheape, and als weill as ever sche did: quhercfoir, seing sche is in sik ane loftie consait of hir worth and service, I mynd not to retene hir longer nor Witsonday nixt, whereof I haue thocht gude to acquent zow, becaus be zour advyse I wald put hir away, or hald her (as ze think meitest): so expecting your opynyoun with the beirar, my verie hartlie dewtie being rememberit to my lord zour husband, and my gude lady,

his mother, with the rest of thess gude ladyis, zour sisters, and zour bairnes, I commit zou all to God, and restis

Zour most loving and affectionet sister to the death.

Callender, the x of Apryle 1616

To my verie honorabill and loving sister, the Countes of Eglinton. Thes.

The same to the same [1616].

50. Right honorabil and sueet sester — My louing deutie euer remembert: I receauit your letter randring you many thanks for your kynd lyns. I was resoluit to hau comit east and seen you, as I desyritt Thomas Eduard to schaue you; bot I am so tormentit with ane distelatione from my head, quhilk hes suallid all my faec sua that I cannot com forth, let be to iourney any, quhilk from my hearte I regrait, for I haue many things to have impartit to you, quherin I wald haue had your best aduyse, quhilk I am forcit to refer to my hasband and the beerar, quha will inform you sufficientlie of them all. Onlie this I will intreite you for your maiden Helen Huntter ane half year, whill I be prouydit; for thes that ar with me dous not ther deutie as becoms them, for many respects. So haiing no farder, wissing you and your childrin all happneis, I rest

Your most treu and affeceonit sister till death,

MARGARIT LEUINGSTOUNE.

To the rycht honorabill and most loving sister, my lady the Countes of Eglingtoun. Gif this.

James Leuingstoune (afterwards first Earl of Calendar), to Anna Countess of Eglintoune, his sister, 4th May 1616.

51. Madame — I recevet yovr ladyships letter of the fvyeft of Apryl, and is glad to heir of your ladyships vilfair. I vryt to yovr ladyship vith the Lard of Hanyng of my proceidengis heier, qvilk is no better nor thay vair then, for my pencion is refvisit me, and hes no hovpe till my qvarter comin; and I expec vord from my lord ovr father shortlye, and sovm mony. Therafter I vill tak another covresse. I have vryten to my lord ovr father that he vill satell my estet in his aven tyme; so I vill pray yovr ladyship to hovld him in remebrance, for my estet is lyk to be hard, both at home and abrod: and if I thocht that my lord vold not satill my estet shortly, I sall theder never sie Scotland then com to be a gakmane to my brother; for I can gett mete and cloth in anne gvair, and for the present I soustin rasonable grit nide of mony. Ais for newis, my Lord

Soumersyd heis arrenment beis the 15 of this instant. The pesse is med in France; and the Franch Imbasador is com this nicht hir to shawe the King the manor. Ais for William Hay, ovr ounkell, he is very ill thocht of heir; and the kingis maiesty declaret his will concerning him to my Lord Chanceler. So thvs prayeng God to geve your ladyship contenment, and kip yovr ladyship in good hath, I rest

Yovr ladyships most loving brother to serve yov,

Thetfoord, 4 Maii 1616.

To my very honnorable good lady, my Lady Contes of Eglintoune.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstoun, his Countess, 5th June 1616.

52. My sweit hert—Ze sall resceue with this letter four (400) markis; and for all wther beissines, I haue done them, and hes derecit them to be doune with all delygence. As for Sir Henrie Watlau he hes beine reseuin his mony this day, and is to get the rest of it the morou. I haue bein particular with my lord our father conserning all thingis as I sall let zou knaw at moir lenthe at meitting. My lady our mother is not as zeit coum in to theis toun, and my lord is pourposit to go out of this toun this ouk. My Lord Fleiming, our brother, is coum to this toun, bot is not to remain heir. Ze sall remember my seruice to my lady my mother, and to zour self, and my louing deutie to all the rest of zour goud coumpanie, and my blissing to all the bairins. Sue wissing zou euer all happines, I rest

Zours euer,

Ed. the 5 of Junii 1616. EGLINTOUN.

Efter I had wretten the sam, my goud mother com to this toun.

To my best belouitt. Eglintoun.

Anna Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 8th September 1617.

53. My verie honourabill love — I resauit zour letter, and is glaid to haue hard both be the samen, as also be the beirar, of zour guid healthis thair, and of zour bairnes sauetie in thair trauell. As for zour wisching of me thair, zie did not wische me oftiner nor I did myself to haue beine with zow, and salbe werie loth (God willing) to stay behind my ladye, if hir ladyship cum wast, foir I think long to see howe zie luik in zour avine hous; but if the weather continaw as it hes doun since zour pairting frome heir, I feir my ladyes voyage wilbe stayit, for hir ladyship hes gottin no teynding all this same day that hir ladyship is begun to teynd in Setoun. We are all werie weill heir (praised be God) as zie wald wische; except onlie we think the hous a

litle more wncouth nor it was; bot I will assure zou zour sone Hughe dois neuer mis ane of zow: he is werie weill as can be. I desyre zow that zie will remember my dewtie to my lord. I wisching at God that he may thryve and prosper thair to his honour and credite thair, as I wald desyre; for I doubt not but all his freindis thair is most glaid of zow all. I will not faill at all occasiones to let zow knawe howe zour son is, and all the rest that is heir, desyring zow to do the lik, not omiting my lord his most loveing remembrance to zow and all the bairnes. altho zour sone Hugh will not grant to cum wast be no meanes. So restis

Zour most affectionat love to serve zow,

Setoun, 8 of Sep[r]. 1617.

George hes his love rememberit to Hearie, randering him most hartlie thankis for his troumpet: in recompence quhairof, with the nixt occasioun he will send Hearie ane swase.

To my werie honorable love, my Ladye Countes of Eglingtoun.

John Master of Wigton to Anna Countess of Eglintoune, his sister-in-law, 20th October 1617.

54. Madam — My most trew affectioune remembrit: I must humble intreat zowr ladyships pardoun be thir lyns, that I haw been so slow in writting sinc I saw zowr ladyship, quhilk I am persuadit zow will not think to proceed from vnkyndnes, or zit forgetfullnes of that deutie and respect quhilk many vays I am oblischit to carry to zowr ladyship; bot only this tym hes been sumquhat troublesum to me in taiking order vith my affairs, that it distractit me from thir parts quhair I might haw had commoditie in vritting: for I haw nothing to vrit bot to know of my lords estat and zowr ladyships, with zowr childrens, quhilk I sall viss to continew vith happines; and if I can be steedable in thir parts, eyther to my lord or zowr ladyship, zow sall be assurid I sall be willing and ready to the wttermos of my pouer. Quhen Martimes is by, I vill com in and haulk ten or tuelf days vith my lord. So hauing no farder, wissing my lord and zowr ladyship, vith all the bairns, all trew happines, I rest

Zowr ladyships most assurd and affectionat brother to serwe zou,

Cumernald, the 20 of October 1617.

To my verie honorabill good lady and louing sister, the Countesse of Eglintoune. These.

Lady Isabella Setoun, Countess of Perth, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 9th December 1617.

55. Madame and loving sister — Tho I haue bene this great whyll bygone moir silent then of my bund love and dewtie I ought to haue bein, if seiknes had not bein the occasioun thairof, I most confes ze haue just reasson to challenge me of the seldome wrytting; bot my entire affectioun to do your ladyship anye seruice in thir pairts sall be nothing les. So these few lynis ar first to beg pardoun for my slownes; and nixt to give testimonye of my great obligment I ever ought and sall carye to your ladyship, to my lyues end. Sister, the ane pairt of your last I ressauit ane great deal of contentment, bot following great discontentment, if I had not first considderit bothe the tyme of the yeare, and nixt your present estait, as I haue learnit be my ladye my mother, that ye have sum meaning of your self to inriche ws for sum mo friends; quhilk, if it be for ane warld I wold not wishe your presens being in anye wayes prejudiciall to your health, quhilk I will ever wishe, and will with all myne hart except your good will in pairt of payment (bot befoir all your good prayers); for to do yow harme (and me good) wald be miscontentment to me. So houping ye will excuse me, altho this be my last till it pleas Almightie God to mak us twosum, I will intreat that these may tak leve for me to that happye tyme. So rests

Your ladyships most affectionat and loving sister to death,

Setoun, the 9 of December 1617.[1]

For all the danger I am to come to, I am so stout and in courage as I houp to come west and help yow, by God his power, to beir our westland freinds alsweill as our eistland freinds. I most not forzet to desyr your ladyship to remember me to my sweit love Harye, and give him and Ladye Margaret ane kis from me.

The same to the same [c. 1617.]

56. My honourable and deir sister—This morning in my bede did I resaue your last and most wyelcoume letter; bot I am sorie, sister, that ze soulde geif me thanks whar ther is non deseruid

[1] The above woodcut is taken from a letter dated 8th November 1614, which is not printed.

be me, in respek that I deid nothing bot that vhilk was my bound doutie to do, and mor if I could have the poure, according to my desyre to requyt your love. Sence my ladie our mother gois not wast with yow, I am fre my hairte most gleaid that ze ar to haue the companie of my sweit vyf thair, vith the rest of your honorable companie that is to be with yow; and I most intret yow, sister, to remember my louing doutie to thame all, with my humble seruice to my lord your feather, and my leadie your deir mother, with my loue and best affectioune to my sweit loue and your sister in law: and, beleived deir sister, tho I be not at this your first wast going in your companie, to atend yow in bodie, I sall not be absent fre yow in mynd. I am gleaid that brother is resauid in his mothers fafours againe.

I can not tell yow, deir sister, in vhat a schoage I have bein in since my voman vent fre me, becaus scho did forzett your feder behind hir; and I vas resoluid this nicht to haue send it to yow at the farest, tho ze hade not sent for it: but nov I am gleaid, as it is falin fourth, that scho did forzet it behind her till this daye.

To my honorable louing sister, the Countes of Eglintoun.

The same to the same [c. 1617.]

57. Deir sister — The beirer heirof being vithin a tua o 3 myles to me, he being at Branksmithe vith his scheif, did me the fafour to coum heir and sie me; the vhilk I did accep as no small poynt of keyndnes done to me, knoing him to be your housbands mane; and the gritlier was I contentit be his veiseit, that I micht haue the occatioune to vrytt thir few vnformall lynes to yow, tho I haue no greit sougett vorthie the trubling yow vith at this tyme. Lourance at his heir being with me schew me that whilk of befor I knew, as I vrett to yow be my ladie our mothers aduerteisment; zett, becaus it vas my ladies will that I sould keip it quyet to my self, I did mak my self to seim to him that did not heir of it befor; bot he schew me that his Maiestie hade vritin doune for my brother. If it be so, I preay Good it be for good to yow bothe, as I hope it salbe. If I had knone that it vald not haue beine offenceif to my lord your housband that I hade vretin a letter to his lordships self, I sould not haue bein so long seylent; bot I dout not bot his lordship vill haue me excousid that I do not vrytt till I hir fre your ladyship if my lynes may be acceptable to his lordship or not: and till your neixt aduerteisment, deir sister. I vill onlie intret yow to present my louing deutie to my lord your housband, and I sall preay to God for a happie returne to his lordship againe; and I beseik yow, deir sister, think not long till his lordship returne againe; and be not forzetfull of my sevit to you in my former letter that I wret to you with my man Donolde Maklen. I rest

Your most louing sister to serue yow,

I. Setoun.

To my werie honorable louing sister, the Countes of Eglintoun.

The same to the same [c. 1631.]

58. Honorable madame and most deirlie beloued sister — Thes ar to plede peardone at your hands for my so long bygen sceilence, sor agenst my hairte if I coulde haue gotin it hepit; bot suche hes bein my louke at I have bein nov amost this xii months bygen forsid to leif till now vhair I neather coulde be so happie as to sie yow at your coming into Loudeian, whilk I volde haue esstemid my scheife and euer oft and longe wischeid happines at I coulde haue hade on earthe, bot to haue sein yow vhen ze vas heir in this countrie; neather coulde I get occatioun so oftin to vryte to yow, being in the northe dualleing as I vill do heir for my hairte, vhilk falt now in all tyms couming salbe vith the helpe of God mendit: besieiking you, deir sister, not to jeudge of my loue and memorie of yow by the number of my letters this whyle bygen to yow; for if ze do ze schoulde do me a greite dell of vronge, iff ze coulde do me any; for at that tyme that your sone was mcaried, I heiring that my deochter vas desyred bothe be your lord and your sone to haue gon vast to it, at that samin tyme I vret to yow, and did also scende your tua beouks vith my letter to my dochter to haue ten vast with hir to yov: so scho for her aoune outher endis at that tyme resolueing not to go, did neather scende my letter to yow, nor zit your beouks, bot hes all into hir hands zit at the vryting heirof; bot I do intend to take them the first tym at I go to Seatoun fre hir, and sall scend thes beouks at I hade the len of to your ladyship with the first schoure beirer at I can haue to scende them vith to your ladyship, vith many thanks for the so longe len of them as I haue hade; assuring your ladyship at I and all that I eather heaue or can command sall euer be als ready at your sceruice vhilst I breaithe: bot my leifing into thes peairtis this vhyle bygen, vhair I coulde not imagen vhairin I coulde be anyuays vsfull to yow, makis me aschemid of your ladyship so to good memorie of me in scending to me so muche feyne small lining as vas in the tua peisis at it hes pleisid yow to scend to me, vhilk I haue resaued, bot no pryse vith it vhat it coste your ladyship. Houping that ze vill do me that fafouare in your nixt letter to me; and in the mein tyme I can not schouse but returne yov all heairtilie and keynd thanks for the samin. The happines var myn if I could be so happie as to scei yov, and be acquentit vith your good dochter, vhom I most euer loue vith my hairt, tho I sulde neuer si hir, being your sonis vyfe, altho he hade not bein, as he is to me, my brother sone: bot scho most mak me a greit mends for meareing my housband vithout my conscent. God send vs that at thair is so good appeirance of as your ladyship vrytis to me; and that sal be a mor nor a sufeitiante mends to me I asschour yov. Deir sister my housbands cam home heir to the Vastpans to me on the xix of September: bleissed be God his longe trubils is nov vorin neir a end, as I houpe. Geif thes leif to remember my loue and sceruice to your lord, your ladyships sielf, yor sone and his lady, vith my blissing to all the rest of your houpfull schildring: thus in restis

Your ladyships most treuli louing sister to scerue yow, ISABELL SEATOUNE.

To her treulie noble lady, and most deirlie beloued sister, the Countes of Eglintoun.

Paull Hammyltone, Captain of Arran, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 15th February 1618.

59. My Lord—Eftir hartly commendatioun and seruice: Pleis your lordship, your lordship's halk come in this cuntre abowt a monethe sensyne, quhar my brudder William Hammyltone fallowit one hir, and socht and serssit hir, and gat hir; and I haf cawst hyme intertyng hir, becaus he was skelid of halkis; and your lordship sall resawe hir als weill in fedder and bene fra me as weill as ewer scho was, and scho had bene wyth a thowsand engels. Ze or one of your lordship's hows may command me in one effaris at lyiis in me to your lordship's honor. And I haf causit delyuer hir to zour lordship's falconer, and to Neill Mongumro of the Ill of Cumray, your lordship's awin man. And I causit send word to se it to the lawland to se quha was aucht hir: Not to foche zour lordship with lanyer lettor, bot commitis your lordship in the protecioun of the almichtiu God, at Brodik the xv day of Fabrewar, the zeir of God I.M VIc and auchtin zeiris.

Your lordship's seruitor at power to be commandit,

PAULL HAMMYLTONE, Capitan of Arran.

Margaret Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, 27th March 1618.

60. Madame and loving dochter—I ressauit your letter from Thomas Huttoun, quhairby I persauit ze war all in goode [healthe], quhairof I was not a litle joyfull; bot thaireftir I hard, be ane letter writtin to Robert Setoun, that your childrein had bein seik bothe of the cauld and sum fever; quhilke I assure yow procedit of nothing bot of evill governament, and will intreat yow to caus haue ane better cair of them in tymes comeing; not looking to everie ones idle opinioun, bot evin to wse them efter ane equall and midforme. Praisit be God all our childrein heir hes had nathir cauld nor fever this year, quhilk bothe is and hes bene exceiding colde and tempestuous. Ye schew me also that your husband was to be heir schortlye; bot I think it will not be so soone as ze expectit, being most sorie from our hairts of the occasioun of his stay: I think freinds will visit him befoir he come hither. As for anye vther news we haue none, bot that all freinds, with your sone Hew, is in goode health, and sall ever from our hairts wishe to heir the lyke of yow with your childrein. So desyreing yow at all occasiouns to acquent me with your estaits, wishing yow with your childrein all health and happines, rests

Your ladyships most loving mother at power,

MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

Setoun, the 27 of Marche 1618.

The bairne Jeane hes hir seruice remembrit wnto yow, with her commendatiouns to hir mamye.

As for Mrs Morray hir dyet to go to Ingland, I heir scho is not to go befoir May.

To my verie honorable ladye and loving dochter, my Ladye Countes of Eglintoun.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Anna Livingstoun, his Countess, 30th June 1618.

61. My sweit hert — My louing deutie remimberit to yourself and to your seister: Thir feu lynes ar to let you knau that my lady my mother and our father, with the rest of the lordis that is heir with my Lord Fleiming, wilbe all with you, God uilling, wpon Setterday nixt out of Glasgou; thairfor caus haue our supper in reddines. Ze sall also derec Thomas Neuin to send the 33 letters (that I soubscryuit) auay with all diligence to my freindis, and sie tham derecit all to meit ws on Fryday at the Seicht Heill or Beisschopis Brigis be tua efter non. Let all nesesseris be gotin in redines: remitting all the rest to the beirrer, I rest

Your most louing housband, EGLINTOUN.

My brother soun, Cristofill, is depertit this lyf: he was only seik thire or four dayis befor his deseis.

Setoun, the 30 of Junii 1618.

To my best belouit the C. of Eglintoun.

Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to her daughter-in-law, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 13th November 1618.

62. Madame and loveing dochter — I receavit your letter with your vther letter befoir from my sone Thomas, persaving by the samyn of your goode health and estait, quhilk breideth me no small contentment; for I was longing verye muche to here from you befoir the boyes came with the letteris: and if they had not come, I was to haue sent one to haue broght me word from you. As concerning your dochter Elinor, I am verye glaid that ye haue gottin ane young milk woman to hir, seing hir mamye proued not sufficient. Ze have done verye wyselie in doing the samyn; for the young milk, with the help of God, will bring hir to agane. As anent the letter ye wreit wnto Janet Dowglas about the lint, thair is aneugh in Edinburgh but verye litle goode. I coft all myne thair this zeir, and gaue for bound lint v lib. v s., and for poppin lint vi lib. vi s. viii d., and vther poppin lint, vii lib. vi s. viii d. Ze haue bein too long in adverteising to get it; bot I sall send in Jonet Montgomerye and Janet Dowglas and see quhair they can get it best; and quhair ze tald Janet Dowglas to sie what your sone Hew wants, I think ye sould leve that so long as I am with him. He is verye weill, praisit be God, and hes his service remembrit wnto yow. So having no forder for the present, bot desyring yow to let me heir from yow att all occasionis, my blessing remembrit to your self and childrein. Committing you all to the protectioune of God, rests ever

Your ladyships loving mother at power,

Setoun, the 13 of November 1618. MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

When your lint is coft, we sall adverteis yow of the pryce.

As for your nurishe Margart Ray, she is delyuerit of ane dochter, and hes callit hir Margaret for the barnes saik.

Anna Countess of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 24th November 1618.

63. My verie honorable love — Finding this so fetting occasioun off this beirar, wald not omit to acquant your ladyship that all your bairnes and friendis heir ar weill and in good health as zie could wishe (praised be God). As likewysse yie sall knawe that I haue beine over the watter laitlie in Erroll, and George and Margarit with me, off whom they war most glaid, whair I did funde and leave thaim all in good estait for the present; whair I mett with my good sister, my Lord Hay his wyffe, who bred me grit contentment; for scho is both wyse, discreit, and ane sweit createure, and as I hoip sall gif all that belongis ws heirefter gritter matter of contentment. I was most glaid to wnderstand be my Ladye Perth, that zie ar of intentioun to cum heir to see her delyuerie; but as for my self, they that hes informit zow that I am with chyld, they knawe moir than as zit I do my self. But let that cum as it pleises God, for I am not very curiouse: if it pleis God they leive with me that I haue I am content; but I will give zow leive to war me in that as zie do in all other things; but I salbe most glaid of zour hither cuming, and that zie will stay with ws quhill zie houd me. I haue no further for the present, but latis zow knawe that your soune Hewe and George ar bussie leirneing everie day. So not omiting my lordis and my avne most loveing dewtie to my lord your husband, restis euer

Your ladyship's most affectionat love to serue zow,

Seytoun, 24 of November 1618. ANNA HAY.

To my verie honorabill love, my Lady Countess of Eglintoun.

Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, 22nd December 1618.

64. Madam and loving dochter — I receauit your letter from the beirar, quhairby I persaue of your husband his goode health, with your self and childrein, quhairof I am most glaid. As for all your freindis heir, they ar in goode health, praisit be God, ever wishing to heir the lyke of yow all. Your sone Hew is verye weill, and is ane goode scoller. I ressauit your herring and randers yow manye thankis for them; these quhilk ye haue directit to send to Ingland, I sall caus Robert Setoun send them with the first shippe that passeth out of the Panis. As for your lint (as I said befoir) ye haue bene too long in adverteising; for if I had knowne quhen I causit by my awin, I sould haue provydit for yow in lyke maner: so soone as Henrye Setoun adverteisit me that thair was lint come hame, I sent in Jonet Dowglas to Edinburgh, and she could not find anye worthe the handling, bot sax stane and elevin pund, quhilk will pleis yow caus ressaue. Intreating yow to let me know at all occasiouns quhat ye mister in thir pairts, and to let me heir of your healthe, wishing yow all manye long and happye dayes, committing yow to the protectioun of God, and rests Your ladyship's most loving mother at power,

Setoun, the 22 of December 1618. MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

To my best belovit
the C. of Eglintoun
& thes

My deir hert my most louing deutie remim-
berit thir few leyris ar to lett you knaw that
all freyndis ar in gould helth praisit be god
exnestly intreiting you to let me heir of your
gould helthe for I long mouche to heir
from you, my seiter dochter is christ
and hir nam is margarit, your brothe
my lord liningstoun is gone to Court
with my lord marquis his gouldfather
the Kings mate hes bein wery seik and
in grit danger of ane grit fualling in
his lage and he himself apprehendit
daithe bot praisit be god he is conualesit
and well agen I nue wissing you euer
all helthe and happines I rest

Yours

Setoun the 4. of Apryll Eglintoun

1619

We heir now that the Queinis Maiestie is convalescent, praisit be God! bot she was exceding seik befoir, and thoght to haue bein in danger. Your sone Hew hes his seruice remembrit wnto yow and to my lord his father, and his commendatiounis to Harie and to his sisters.

To my verie honorabill lady and loving dochter, the Countes of Eglintoun.

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl Eglintoun, his brother, 10th March 1619.

65. My verie honorabill lord and loveing brother — Being most glaid to haue wnderstood be zour lordships of your good health, zour honorabill ladyes and bairnes, as I can not omit to returne zour lordship the lyke of all freinds heir, and of zour sone Hew, who stryves so far as in him lyes to be ane good scholler: als also am weill pleised that zour lordships dogis randers zow contentment; but whereas zour lordship desyris the change of the doge with the auld bitche, it is of treuth that for the present I am so desolat my selff, that I can skairslie go to the feilds, but as I sal happine to be better provydit heirefter, zour lordship sall have full and absolute power to command quhatsoeuer is myne. Haveing no occurrances offeringe heir for the present worthie of zour lordship, except the most deplorable death of the Queenes Maiestie, who diet the secound of this instant; sua to meitting or new occasioun, onlie my most loveing dewtie to zour self and zour ladye, by wishing zow all happines, as euer sall rest

Zour lordships most lovenge brother to serue zow,

Seytoun, 10 of Merche 1619. WINTOUN.

To my verie honorabill lord and loveing brother, my Lord Earle of Eglintoun.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Ann Livingstoun, his Countess, 4th April 1619.

66. My deir hert — My most louing deutie remimberit. Thir feu lynis are to lett you knau that all freindis ar in goud helteh, prasit be God; ernestly intreiting you to let me heir of your goud helthe, for I long mouche to heir from you. My seister dochter is chrisnit, and hir nam is Margarit. Your brother, my Lord Leuingstoun, is gone to court with my Lord Marquis his goudfather. The Kings Maiestie has bein wery seik and in grit danger, of ane grit swalling in his laig, and he heim self aprehendit daithe; bot, prasit be God, he is conualesit and weill agen. Sue wissing you euer all helthe and happines, I rest

Setoun, the 4 of Apryll 1619. Yours,

To my best belouit the C. of Eglintoun. This. EGLINTOUN.

John Lord Flemyng to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, [?] 21st April 1619.

67. My verie honorabill guid lord and loufing brother — My hertlie dewtie rememberit to zour lordship, and my lady zour bedfellow: Thir presents ar mest ernistlie to request zour lordship

in fauoris of the Lady Cunynghamheid, quha is my vncle his wyf, anent sum teinds pertening to zour lordship of zour lands of Cunynghamheid or Pokellie, for the quhilk they hef not as zit agreyit with zour lordship. And becaus I heir they are verie willing to gif zour lordship sik resonabill satisffactioun as ony vther hes done for the lyke, and not to be hard, nor to gif occasioun to be ony wors vsed nor thair nychtbouris; thairfore I will tak the bauldnes to intreat zour lordship to schaw thame sik fauour tharein as they may knaw they find courtesse of zour lordship for this my requeist, as I salbe maist willing to acquyte zour lordship in quhat I may. Sua luiking for zour lordships fauorable deilling for myne and my vncle his respectis quha hes interes in that mater, I commit zour lordship to Godis holy proctection, and restis

Zour lordships most affectionat brotheir to serue zow,

Cumbernald, this xxi of Apryle 1619. J. Flemyng.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Lady Anna Livingstone, his Countess, 14th July 1619.

68. My deirest hert — My most louing deutie remimberred: These ar to let you knau that I have reseuit your letter, and is most sory of your estait; intreiting you most ernestly to let me knau of your estait with deilligence efter the resait of this. Our sonn Hew is almost weil anouch, prasit be God; his suailing to the blaibis, and thay ar blaiknin on neuer wery seik with them. As for our thay sall go weill; bot I think we sall gett littill done at this sessioun. I sall let you knau at my homcouming; I louk that bothe my goud sister and sister, with ther housbandis, sall coum wast to wesit you in your auin hous. Therfor fell not to send your kotche and horsis eist to me efter the reset of this, and kaus sax of the eblest tennetis coum with hir to Glasgou to pout hir by all the stratis and dangeris, and therefter to derek the kotchman to coum to me. I tink or now the horse that my Lady Abercorin had is coum hom to you. Gif not, ye will get him for the sending for at Blakstoun that my lord douk sall be in Edinburgh the morow. My lord of Midoup is deid. Sue wissing yow euer all helthe and happines, I rest

Yours moir than my nauin,

Setoun, 14 of July 1619. A. E. Eglintoun.

My lady my mother thinkis is best to you to drink klarit wyn for your ordinar drink. I sall also tak Docter Arnet openioun theranent.

Eleanor Countess of Lynlithgow to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter, 19th August 1619.

69. Madame and luifing dochter — This present is to schaw zow that my Lord Duik is to be heir the morne; and thairfoir I am to desyre zow to send me with this bearar tua pair of zour smallest scheittis, with zour silver chandleris, silver trunshouris and spounes, and sic wther thingis as I schew zow of, and that ze knaw we stand in neid of. Remitting the rest to my sonne Schir James letter,

my commendatiounes remeberit to my lord, zour selfe, and all the bairnes, I rest and comittis zow to God.

Zour evir assurit lovinge mother,

Callender, this Thursday, the 19 of Agust 1619. ELEONOR C. LYNLITHGW.

Zour sonne Allexander quha, praissit be God, is weill, hes service rememberit to my lord his father, zow and all his brether.

To the rycht honnorabill and my loueing dochter, the Countess of Eglingtoune. These.

Alexander, first Earl of Linlythgow, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, his daughter, 6th December 1619.

70. Madame and lowing doghter—I ressauit zour ladyships lettir from Captan Crombie, bot could not haiff the ocatioun to wryt to zour ladyship quhill now; and hes spokin the folkis quha will do nathing with ony bot ather with me lord, zour ladyships husband, or zour ladyships self: sua thay desyrs not to be knavin; bot I hoip to wryt to zour ladyship schortlie the secreitis of all thingis at lenth, and sall do guid in to it; bot thay thocht not the Captane meit for that purpois for mony respectis, as I sall acquent zour ladyship eftirvart. Seing zour ladyship sone Alexander is distant frome zow, I haif send zour ladyship his portrat, quhilk I think zour ladyship sall think guid off; and hoipis in God he sall mak ane prettie man, as me lord zour ladyships husband, and sindrie that hes sein him, can schav zour ladyship at lenth. I will not fasch zour ladyship with fardir letter. My hairtlie devtie remembrit to zour ladyship and all zour bairnis, committis zour ladyship hairtlie to God, and restis Zour ladyships loving father to command,

LINLYTHGOW.

At Callender, the sext day of December 1619.

To my werie honorabill guid ladie and lowing doghter, the Countess of Eglingtoun. These.

Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, her daughter-in-law, 9th April 1620.

71. Madame and loving dochter—I ressauit your letter. Having hard that ze war of intentioun to haue come eist, bot heiring be my sone that ze was not weill, I am glaid ze come not, and will desyre yow earnestlye not to mak anye travell till ze find your self weill, and then ze may come and bring Hereye with yow; for I wald be glaid to sie yow both, bot wald be sorie that anie thing sould truble your health. As for these quhaim it hath pleasit God to tak, praise God for the samyn, and tak in goode patience: the Lord geveth and the Lord taketh. All freindis heir ar in goode health for the present, and hes thair loving dewtie remembrit wnto yow. My Ladye Wintoun and my dochter ar mending, praisit be God, as my lord your husband can schaw yow. As for anye vther news I haue nane for the present. It will please caus ane come and ressaue your

claith: thair is xxxv elns of it, and as for bleitching it heir, I dar not hazarde it, not knowing weill quhat to do with my awin, for the last zeir I had ane great quantitie of my claith rottin and spilt with lyme, so that it was goode for no seruice. Zour sone Hew is in goode health, and hes his seruice remembrit wnto yow. So hauing no forder for the present, bot will intreat yow to let me heir from yow at all occasiouns, my blissing remembrit wnto your self and childrein, rests euer

Zour ladyships most loving mother at power,

MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

Setoun, the 9 of Apryle 1620.

To my verie honorable ladye and loving dochter, the Countes of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 19th May 1620.

72. Madame and loving dochter — Thinking long to heir of your goode health and childrein, I haue tane occasioun to send this beirar wnto yow, to schaw yow that all your freindis here ar in goode health, praisit be God, with your sone Hew; desyring no thing so muche then to heir the lyke of yow all, quhilk will be great contentment wnto me. I houp now quhen your husband comes eist, ze will come heir, that we may be all mirrie togidder. Bot quhen ze travel I will desyre yow earnestlye to travell bot by easie jornays; and not to travell quhil ze knaw your self to be with quick bairne, and that ze find your self stronge. Doctor Jollie schew me that ze war verie waik quhen he was thair; thairfoir I will requeist yow to keip your self the moir warlie. I haue sent two fillies to my sone to be grasit thair, becaus the drouth hes bene, and as zit still continews heir, so that we haue no grase at all. Sa having no farder to schaw yow, bot that Coronell Gray, and his Capitanes, and thair men of weir, ar all going to Bohemia the xx of this instant; they ar all writtin for. Thus desyring yow to let me heir from yow at all occasions, comitting yow and your children to the protectioun of the Almightie God, restes ever

Your ladyships most loving mother at power,

Setoun, the 19 of Maii 1620. MARGARET LADY SETOUN.

Alexander, first Earl of Linlythgow, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, his daughter, 28th May 1620.

73. Madame and loving doghter — My hairtly dewtie remembrit: I thank God for my selff, I haif bein trublit this quhyle bygain with the gravell, wtherwayis I think my selff in guid estait, and thinkis lang to heir of zour ladyships guid estait, zour ladyships husband and bairnis; and will desyre zour ladyship to haif ane cair of zour self and tak not na jorney in hand, quhill zour ladyship think zow out of danger, baith for zour self and bairne. Zour sone Alexander, thankis to God, is weill, and hes his service remebrd to zour ladyship, me lord his father, and bairnis. Resave twa lettris frome zour ladyships brother, Sir James, quhairof ane to zour ladyships self.

and wther to zour husband. My hairtly dewtie remebrit to my lord zour husband and bairnis, committis zour ladyship to God, and restis

Zour ladyships loving father to command,

At Callender, the xxviii of Maii 1620. LINLYTHGOW.

I luk zour sister, my Lady Vigtone, and my lord vill be heir the morne att nicht, goin to Cumernald.

To the right honorabill and loving doghter, my Ladie Countes of Eglintoun. Thes.

Marion Boyd, Countess of Abercorn, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 3rd June 1620.

74. My verie honorabill guide lord—I wnderstand my sone hes wrettin to zour lordship anent our going to Edinburgh, quhair, Godwilling, we think to be on Twisday at nycht, the xiii of Junii instant; expecting zour lordship wilbe thair also, as my sonne hes desyrit zow. And becaus my cotcheman hes gone frome me, I must intreate zour lordship to send to me zour cotcheman, and ane or twa of zour cotche horses, on Fryday or Setterday nixt; quhilk, trusting zour lordship will do, as I salbe willing to pleasour zour lordship at all occasiounes. Thus, craveing zour lordships excuise of my hamelines, my hartliest commendatiounes rememberit to zour lordship and guid lady, I rest

Your lordships maist affectionat cousingnes,

Blakistoun, the 3 off Junii 1620.

To my verie honorabill guide lord, my Lord Erle off Eglyntoun.

Robert Setoun, servant to Margaret Countess Dowager of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th April [1620].

75. My nobill lord—My lord, hes ladie and children, ar in guide helth, and all zour wther freindes heir. We haif no newes from Court. Sindrie of our nobillmen ar gon wp, as Roxburch, Erroll, Dumfreis, Latherdaill, Clark Register, Sir John Scott, Commissioner for Buckcleuche, Commissioners for the toun of Edinburgh and burrowes, against my Lord Spinnie and the Erll of Erroll. The Marqueis is assuritlie lukit for the last of April at Haleruidhous. I am glaid zour lordship did gif me so tymouse adverteisment for zour cuik; wtherwayes I wald haif endit with on this

weik. I haif at lenth spokin with the scoulmester in the Panis, quha dois assur me that hes preceis price of hes buirders sitting at tabill is tuo hunder merk; and those that sittes at the fuit of the tabill faires als weall as those at the heide, and so most pay no lesse: so this will cum to nyn hunder merk a year. The tearme advanscit at the entrie, and everie on of the scollers a dolor in the quarter, besydes clothes wasching, and Candelmes candell siluer: zour lordship most also send tuo bedding of clothes with them. William Home saillit on Mononday the last of Merche, and hes gottin ressonable fair wondes. I hoip or now he be at his jorneyes end. Your lordship misters not send the moneis for the cotche befoir the fyftein day of Maii, for so ar zow obleissit; and ther is no thankes for payment befor the tyme.

Sir Robert Hepburne departit this lyfe the 4 of this instant, and will be buriet on Tuysday nixt the 15. My lord zour brother is bissie with hes new Herberie, but sore against my will: I fear it prouffe ane inprofitable work, and skars worthie hes paines; bot ther is no steying of him. As any occourrentes falls out I sall adverteis zour lordship at all occatiounes. I wrait in my last my opinion conserning your bairnes eistcuming as I do zit continow: I think, gif ther be ane guid grammer scoull in Glesgo, zour bairns can be no wors ther than at the Panes, and I think lairge cheipper; by and attour they ar near zour self, quhair onis a weik, ather by zourself or zour servauntes, zow can se them. Bot I zeald to your lordships opinioun. Gif they cum heir, they sall want nothing quhairin my wyfe and I can serue them. Efter my humble seruice with my wyfes to your lordship, and to your nobill children, I rest euer

Your lordships humble seruant to be commandit,

Tranent, 9 Aprill. ROBERT SETOUN.*

The name of the littill doge is Adonus.

To my nobill lord, my Lord the Erll of Eglintoune.

The same to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 19th June [c. 1620?].

76. My very honourable guid lady—Altho in my letter to his lordship I haif said all I can quhair with I know zow will be acquentit, zit for dischairg of my dewtie towardis zour ladyship, I haif presumit this farre to lait zour ladyship know that my lady my mestres is in gude helth, with my Lady Perth, euer sinc zour pairting, as also my Lady Wintoun, and hes them most hartlie rememberit to zow. All the bairnes ar weill, praisit be God; and as they can come to me writing, and desyreit me to remember ther seruice to my lord, and to zour ladyship, especialie zour sone Hew; bot the language I gat of Harie and Alexander wes How Dutche. Helein Hunter hes bein seik thir tuo dayes bygane, and zit continues; the grittest occatioun muifis is the greif scho apprehendis for hir fathers death, quhilk is cume to her knawledge. All the occurentis heir I

* The same Robert Setoun is one of the attesting witnesses in an assignation by Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglinton, dated in 1613, and he is therein designated, 'Robert Seytoun, brother german to the guidman of Northrig.' [Original at Eglinton.]

know zowr ladyship will sufficientle eneuch be satisfeit by myne to his lordship, quhairof I will ceis to writ farther. I did forgett to latt my lord know in his letter that as zit Henrie Setoun hes not poutit the gud wyf of the myll hir siluer, bot is als ernest as he can; zow will acquent him herewith. Madam, gif it will pleis zour ladyship honor me with zowr ladyships commandementis heir, I will think myself farr honort therwith, and will be most willing to serue zowr ladyship in what I can. Sir Johne Setoun his lady wes broght to bed the xii of this instant of ane sone; I think my Lord Bothuell sall gif him his name on Sonday nixt. I most also remember zour ladyship with on particular, that at our pairting ze schew me that zow had intentioun to send for Hew Mongomerie and Wattie: I culd haif wissit the on to haif cume with the wther, be resoun that my lady for his ouersyght hes descommandit him hir seruice, and his woman bothe, and befor he had returnit with zour ladyship it micht haif bein forgottin. I leif all wther thingis to the nixt occatioun. Efter my humbell seruice rememberit to zour ladyship, with my wyfe her seruice inlykmaner, I rest euer your ladyships humbill seruitour to be commandit,

Setoun, xix Junii. ROBERT SETOUN.

To the richt honorable and my very gude lady, my Lady Countes of Eglintoun.

Robert, second Lord Melvill, to James, fifth Lord Ross, 8th October 1622.

77. My lord — I resauit zour lordshipes vith Claude, and thank zour lordship for zour dea nets, amonge many other of zour kyndnese; they ar not zet cum to my handis, for the good man of Raploche ves heir, and I fear they cum not so haistelie as they vald haue doone frome Glascow. Quher zour lordship vald haue me at the batter sape, zow may draw me quher yow plees for a lese earande; seing ther is nothing I vishe better success vnto then to that: bot if zour lordship knew trewlie zour moothers inhabilitie, and quhat I am dealing, bothe directlie and indirectlie, to dissuade hir, zour Lordship vald most willinglie concurre to assist me; for I protest I am effrayit of hir trauell betuix this and Brunteland: shoo is now becum so vnhabill that shoo may not suffer a horse so much as paise vnder hir; bot go at suche lasur as betuix this and Brunteland it ves a quholle dayis trauell to hir, and ves not weill eicht dayis efter. My Ladie Angus lykwys is most earnest to haue hir, and zour lordship may judge quhather shoo be abill to doo bothe; and if shoo could any vayit assime to the one (I meine to hir dochter), shoo vold lese that kynd ladie quho loouis hir so veill. I suear I had never a busines trowblit me moir, knawing the great contentment it vold be to vs all, to zow to haue hir, to hir to be besyd zow at suche a tym, and to me to guie bothe zow and hir that contentment, for it vill be such a paine to hir till shoo heir of hir dochters veilfair, as I am certaine it vilbe vorse nor hir trauell, if I ver not persuadat that the last can hardlie be performit vithout great hasard: and in good faithe it vill not ly in me to stay hir except zour lordship vald vreat and intreat hir earnestlie to stay in regaird of the seasone of the zeir and the foulle vedder: zour lordship may be assurit that all the earands ve haue adoo, quhiche ar many for the present, vald not mooue me to ballance them

vith that contentment quhiche I knaw it vold giue to zour ladie, quhome I preferre to any thing els, if I had not that diffidence of hir habilitie quherof I haue too great raisone. I vishe zour ladies healthe could haue sufferit hir to haue beine ather heir or in Brunteland: I am persuadit quhen shoo herris my raisone shoo vill rather vreat to stay hir, then to haue the fear of the hasard hir cuming vilbe. I am assurit that my ladie persuadis hir self moir of my cair to haue hir contentid ther that any raisone in the varld could hinder me, bot the hasard of hir quhome I knaw shoo vilbe als lothe as my self to hasard. So committing this to be considerit be zour lordships good discretione and my ladies, vith my affectionat seruice remembrit to hir, I rest

Zour lordships assurit vith seruice,

Monimiell, 8 October 1622.

To my honorabill good lord and looaving soone, my Lord Rose. Theis.

Sir William Setoun of Kylismure, Knight, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 3rd June 1624.

78. My weree honorable goode lorde— . . . I find my Lord [Wintoun] his erand on to me att the present is to acquent me with ane matche his lordship is resoluit to embrace with my Lord Hairres onlye dochter. I assure your lordship ane good lyke gentilwoman. For the conditiouns, being concludit, as thaye arr on poynte off conclusion, zour lordship shall heire farther. As thair is not mutche mones to be expectit, sua the conditiouns on my lord (your lordships) brothairs pairte wil be raesonable. Thair is upoune soumme off hir antir misgowuernement harde bruittis spredde in soume sorte to the latte of the gentilwoman's fortune; bot I houpe and persuade my self thaye are manefest lyes; as God forbeide, as his lordship is determinat, vuther wayes warre. Your lordship sall farther witte. Sir Robert Karre is thocht yesternicht comme to Thavwedaille, and this nicht, or the morne, is expectit to be in this toune. This my dewe seruice remembert, sall euer continue your lordships moste affectionate and obedient uncle and servitour,

W. Setoun.

Edinburgh, this 3 Junii 1624.

To the richt noble and my moste speciall goode lorde, my Lorde the Erle of Eglingtoune.

Robert Setoun to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun [1624].

79. My very guid lord— . . . There is ane matche gon on betuixt my lord your brother and my Lord Hereis onlie dochter, and very privatlie; for nain that perteinit him knew of it, to it wes concludit intermes amangis the pairteis. Sche is ane very comlie lady, and ane modest, about 21 yeiris of age. Hir provitioun for ters and conjunct fie is Wintoun, with the hous, myllis, and Wendigoull, Newmains with ther teindis, with the teind of the west feild of

Tranent, recknit to fourtie chalder victuall, with the fourt of the coll and cuningis. My lordis conditioun of tocher is twentie thousand merkis. He is obleisit for fourtie thowsand pund to hir airr maill; and gif ane femell, twentie thousand merkis; and gif ma, twentie thousand pund. Thir ar schortlie the conditiouns. I pray God gif his blissing to it. Sir Robert Ker of Ancrum cam to Edinburgh this efternoon, 4 of this instant. My Lord Bothuell as yet is not returnit; daylie expectit. My humble service remembert, I rest, ever your lordships seruant,

ROBERT SETOUN.

To my very nobill and muche respectit gud lord, my Lord the Erll of Eglintoun.

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, 17th August 1626.

80. My very honorabill lord and most loving brother — Haueing ressauit zour lordships be the way in my going to Nithisdaill, quhairby I was most gled to understande of the continuance off zour lordships and my ladys good healthes thair; assurring zour lordship of the lyke with ws at our last, quhiche was on Monanday last. As for that zour lordship wraite to me concerneing zour lordships mynde to my Lord Nithisdaille, I haue acquentted his lordship thairwith at lenthe; and hes schawin his lordship that double quhiche zour Lordship sent to me; and saw him put it vp amongst his peipers, saying, he wold let the King sie it if neid werr: quha not only hes zour lordship excuissit (being most ressonable); bot also hes promeissit, at his thairbeing, to interpone all the credite his lordship hes for the better furtherance of zour Lordships bissines, giff it be not handelled befoir his thair cuming. As for occurrances, zour lordship sall haue suche as my Lord Nithisdaill ressauit off the first off August.

We heir His Maiestie, finding that the Quenis affectiouns war muche interrupted, thairfoir the King resolved, with sume of his confident counsallouris, to delyver himselfe, in on day off the Frenche that did disturbe thame: and to the end he mycht do it with all possable respect to his brother of France, he dispatched the Lord Carreltone with instructiouns to that King, by quhiche he gaue him ane accompt of all the ressones of that actioun; and gave him so manie days before the tyme, that he mycht be thair befor the news come. All the domestikis of the Queine, alsweill ecclesiestike as lawicke, ar removeit frome hir persone to Danmarke Hous, and this day was presenttit befor the King with jewellis; viz., the Bischope, Madame St. George, Madame Teillearis, Madame de Frenuse, and the Counte Zipieris: and the King geivs amongst the hole companie four and tuentie thoussand pundis or thairby; and they pairte with ane grite daill of ilwill: they ar gone to France, and thair chairges defrayed be His Maiestie. Sum ladys ar suorne of the Quenis bed chalmer, to witt, the Dutches of Bukinghame, the Merquesse off Hamiltoun, the Countese of Cairleill, the Countese of Denbeigh. His Maiestie purposses to set oppin his doores for his awin natioun to ressaue favour frome the Queine; and make hir Queine of his subiectis hairts, alsweill as he doethe of his crounes.

The Dainmarke Imbassadour is vpoun his dispatche with hope of money, and hethe grite testimonie off his Maiesties favour towardis his deir vncle off Dainmarke.

We haue not harde from France laitlie.

We heir frome the Law Contries that the Prince of Oriange hethe put to the feilde; with sume assistance hethe takin ane smale toune, neir Hamgrole, called Odensell.

Oure navie prepairis apaice sumquhat the slaware for the grite sowme of money gevin to the Frenche.

We heir frome Spaine that the sey and land preparatiouns continew, not without the designe to thees pairts; and particularlie vpoun sume pairte of Scotland. Haueing no forder for the present, wishing to zour self, zour ladie, and chyldreine all health and happines, as ever restis

Zour lordships maist affectionat brother to serue zow,

Colledge 17 August 1626. WINTOUN.

To the right noble my verie honorable lord and loueing brother, the Earle of Eglintoune. Thais.

Lady Margaret Levingstoune to her sister, Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 12th August 1627.

81. Madame and loveing sister — I receavit your ladyships letter, and am glaid of your ladyships guid estait and helthe; expecting your ladyship, with my lord your husband (according to his lordships dyat set downe to me in his letter,) on Twysday. In the meantyme will intreat your ladyship to have me excusit, both to my lord your husband and your ladyships self, for not wretting my self, in respect of Mr. Robert Bruces heir being, whom I mynd to keep still with me till your ladyships cuming. He teatches to my ladie thes fornone, and thair ar to hear him the Ladies Boyd and Kilsythe, with Kilsythe himself. As for our motheres estait and helthe, scho is no better then your ladyship left her, for hir braith daylie schortines. So till your ladyships cuming, and ever I remain

Your ladyships most affectionate and loveing sister to serve your ladyship,

MARGARET LEVINGSTOUNE.

Commernald, the 12 of August 1627.

My ladie our mother hes her commende to your ladyship, with your ladyships dochter, Ladie Margaret, wha is, prasit be God, verie weill.

To my verie honorabill gud ladi and loveing sister, my Ladie Countes of Eglingtoune. Thes.

Sir William Setoun of Kylesmure to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 15th June 1628.

82. My veree noble and moste speciale respectit gude lord — I have receaveit zour lordships of the ii instant, the 15 theroff, and thanks zour lordship moste hairtlie, for zour lordships caire off me, more off zour lordships kindnes nor my mereit; wisching, eadgit as I am, howsoevir wnable, I micht doe zour lordship or any off zours service. I moste fall in some part: iff I sawe gude occa-

sioun I coulde not fall on subject: I am little steadable to my freinds; iff I dye or I be burding-full is my greattest felicitie. This weike we expect my lord zour lordships brother, having receaveit advertisment be my Lord Erskine, that he was to followe him within ane daye or tua. Bot jurneys on Captaine Setouns hors that went wppe with my Lord Chancellour in our Scots affairs, we heire no farther then I wrett in my laste: we expect dayelie ane great number off the noblemen and gentrie that arr there dounne couming, as they maye winne presentlie; everee ane having thair private objects for thair dispatche as the others salbe gone: as lykewayis all being gone poste, they moste take leasure and secounde others to finde poste horsis to serve thame. Our greattest and best occurrences arr the questiouns breiding debaite betwixt His Maiestie and his parlament, to be satlit in dewtifull and kyndlye termes the 7 instant; wherof having receaveit ane copie off the forme, have thocht gude to insert the same herein.

The King being sett in the upper hous, and the lawer hous being callit uppe, the Lord Keiper spake to this sence:

'Maye it pleas zour moste sacrede Maiestie; the Lords spirituall and temporall, with commouns 'off zour Maiesties heighe court in parlament, having receaved alreadie a gratious generall 'ansuer from zour Maiestie off the petitioun off richt, doe now humble praye and expect from 'zour Maiestie ane gratious and satisfactorie ansuer to the particularrs theroff.'

Wherevnto the King ansuerit to this sence: 'The ansuer I have alreadie guevin zow was 'maide with so gude deliberacion, and approved be the judgement off sua many wys men, that 'I coulde not have imaginnet bot it soulde have guevin zou full satisfacion. Bot to avoyde all 'ambiguous interpretations, and to shaw zow that ther is no dowbelnes in my meining, I am 'willing to pleas in words, alsweill as in substance. Reid your petitioun, and zow sall have ane 'ansuer that I am sure will pleas zow.'

Efter his Maiesties speitche, all the hous with ane lang congratulating hostingue (as vse is when any thing pleasithe thame), expressit mutche joye with thair countenance and smylls. Then the petitioun was red be ane off the clerks off the parlament, to the heiring off all.

Eftir the reiding off the petitioun off richt, ane other clerke off parlament delyverit the Kings ansuer eftir forme off law, in the heiring off all, quhiche was this: 'Le Roye le veult, soit droyt, 'soit comme est desire.'

Vpone heiring of quhiche ansuer, all the hous with ane other applauding hostingue (as vse is), did express mutche joye.

The Kings Maiestie spake againe to this sence following:

'This I am sure is full, zit no more then I grantit yow in my first ansuer; for the meining of 'that was to confirme all zour liberteis, according to zour awne protestatiounes that zow nether 'cane mende nor hurt my prerogatives; and I assure zow my maxime is, that the peaples liberteis 'strenthin the Kings prerogatives, and the Kings prerogative is to defend the peaples liberteis.'

Heirvpoun ane other applawding joyfull hostingue interveinit, and the King proceidit in his speitche in thes words following:

'Ze see now, how reddie I have shawin myselffe to satisfie your demands, so I have done my 'part; wherfore iff this parlament have not ane happie conclusioun, the sin is zowrs, and I am 'frie off it.'

Thereftir sutche hostingue, shouting and joye was expressit, as the wretter theroff sayis he nevir sawe the lyke; and in the evinning all the bells was rung, and bailfyrs sett vppe everee wher; with singing, scoling, with drinking off healthis for the King, as all the peaple seimit to be madde for joye, as he cane nether be ane trew subject to his Maiestie, nor worthie to be accounttit ane trew countrie man within his Maiesties dominiouns, quhois hairt deid not rejoyis at the concord. He quhoe wrett this was present in the parlament hous when thes things warr actit. My onlye feare is, quhilk I praye God be waine, idle and wntrew, the speciall poynt off liberteie in the hous being, in tyme of parlament, harkening to complaints and grivancis, controlling and punischeing thairoff, that iff in thes heidis they insist as they have ever bene moste curious therin, esteiming that the speciall prerogative off parlament, wnhappelie, that marre all agane. God send the best, and avert the worst: this is my wische and prayer.

Zour lordships resolution in the conclusioun off zour lordships letter is both judicious, wyse, and wertious: continue therin; and seike be all meanes possible to give satisfactioun to these seiks not thair awne weill, oppressit with humore; being zour lordships part to seike bothe theirs and zours with wisdome. My dew service rememberit, and my wyffis, quhome your lordship honors with zour lordships courtes and kyndlye rememberence, to zour lordship, my gude ladie, all zour lordships honorabill bairnes and companye, sall ever continue

Your lordships moste humble, affectionat, and obedient wncle and servitor,

Hadingtoun, this 15 Junnii 1628. W. Setoun.

To the richt noble, my weree honorabill and most speciale respectit gude lord, my Lord the Earle of Eglingtoune. Thes.

Sir William Setoun of Kylesmuir to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th June 1629.

83. My most honorable guid lord — It will pleis your lordship, Sir Robert Carr come to Edinburgh one Frayeday last, quhair I had occasioune to see him; and vpoune respect of your lordships adois, I insinuat myself with him, remembering the old love betuixt his father and me. His replye, with great attestatioune, was, he honoureit the hous I was comeit of from his heart, and haill brenches thairof, for thair wertew and guid cariage; and as for my self, knaweing the love betwixt his father and me, he wold to his deathe honour me as ane father; wissing I sould mak tryell of him, and if I fand not his actiouns ansuer to his words, let newer man giwe him trust. Finding him (thoe to be persewed in courtlie complementes) swa earnest in professeing kyndnes to me, I was glaid; albeit at that tyme we pairteit, be the occasioune of the toune mousters quhilk was comeing doune the way. On Saterday, as I was attendeing on my Lord of Wyntoune, quhois maistres, my lady hir mother, and grandmother, my Lady Neithesdaill elder, with my

Lord Herries, and the Maister her father, and brother, being to dynne with his lordship, and in the efternoone the haill ladies to goe to Seatoune, I learneit Sir Robert was that night to be in the Bothenes with my Lord Zester, from thence to goe to Brokesmythe to wisit my Lady Roxeburghe, my lord keipeing companie to the Bothenes with him. Heir vpoune, als weill to pourches leiwe to goe hoime as haweing ane great desyre to conferr with Sir Robert at moir learge, I shew my Lord of Wyntoune I wold cast myself some day at moirne to the Bothenes, to see gif I could borrowe ane houre of Sir Robert; quhilk my lord did allowe, and (haueing resseawit at his lordship being at Court great courtesies of Sir Robert) did ordoure me in his lordships name to intreat Sir Robert he sould not ovirsee his lordship in his backcomeing towards Edinburgh. I went, wsit his lordships directioune, and fand ane most courteous ansuer, assuring me it was, of his awine accord, his absollowet resollutioune to see boithe my lord and my Lord of Dumfermleing, as by his awine respect; haueing derectioune of the Princes Hienes to see my Lord Dumfermling, and assure him he wold not forzeit his fathers cair of his zounge zeires: lykas Sir Robert hes broghte from His Hienes ane very fair heid buske to my Lady Zester, all dayemontis fynlie sett in forme of ane garnesine, not wery great ones, bot of guid number and indiferent quantitie, sett in flour de lysses, and cowering hir haill foir heid from loig to loige, ryseing somequhat higheir at the foir broue; I estimeit weill worthe ane hundrethe pounds sterleing; and aboue this, in rememberence of His Hienes acknauledgeit respect dewe to my lady hir mothir for hir cair taine vpoune His Hienes. At the efternoone on Sounedaye, I tuik occasioune to be somequhat familliar with Sir Robert; and findeing him secound me at wiss, I was boild to inquyre quhether his awein or Princes adois drewe him hoime at the present, or boithe; great maitters being projectit be comoune report one aithir respect. His ansuer was as of befoir; desyreing me to be perswadeit he wold be no less plaine with me thaine with his father, if he war in lyfe: than brack to me directlie that he had no derectiouns of His Maiesteis at the present, but was absollutlie come for his awine affaires, and had broght his sonne with him (ane werry prettie youithe, quhoe was in his companie); continueing with me the haill narratioune of His Maiesteis grant to him of the estait of Newbatteill and hærritrix of Lotheine, and quhowefar he intendeit to goe one therein; creweing als familliar myne opinioune as your lordship wold doe in lyke cais. That purpos endeit, I returneit to the Princes earandes, and, as on of his Hienes Counsall, inquyreit of him quhat resolutioune was intendeit concerneing His Hienes wassellis; and shewe him freelye quhoue hardlie it was thocht of in the haill countrye, this citatioune of productioune of His Hienes wassellis haldeinges, with thair progres, and acquentit him with the great number of inconvenientis might inshew thair vpoune. The particullairs thairof war to longsome to wreit—it suffices, he did consyder my reasounes, and declaireit the Prince His Hieghenes had hard of thois incomodities, and that the Prince His Hiehnes intendeit swa to handeill that bussines that none sould hawe reasoune to plent, nor onie find meanes to maik great advantadge be his procidours, to his wassellis damadge; resouolloweit to deill in this sort with his wassells, being the onlie berdeit Prince hes beine this manie yeires, that the wassellis of the princepalltee might

acknawledge ane prince major, to quhome they most acknawledge themeselffes wassellis by reneweinge of thair haldeinges in this sort: gif anie by injurie of tyme, or be quhatsome ewir occasioune, had defaltes in thair hoildeinges, condescendeing thairone, his Hieghenes wold reneu thair rightes with supplement of all defaltes, vpoune ressonall conditiounes, provyddeing thair suitt did not prejudge anye thrid persoune, lyke wassell to His Hieghnes; in quhilk cais he wold hawe thair rightes discusseit, and approve the best, gif they could not sensiblie aggrie amonst thaim selffes. Sick as wold stand be the walliditie of thair formair ryghtes, desyreing no supplement, thois His Hieghnes was not myndeit to quarreill in anie sort at the present, bot to approwe in this sort; first, they most renewe the chartour they hawe most confidence in, takeine the same holdeine of Prince Charles, being commeit to perfitt agge of majorite, and his successors, in the wery same termes they hadd the same of beforr, with this onlie claus, saluo jure principis et cujuslibet: notwithstanding of the said receptioune, that gif the Prince, or anie othir subject, vpoune just ryght, did quarreill be comoune cours of law, aithir thair originall ryghte or progress vpoune guid and pregnant ressounes, this newe approbatioune and chartour granteit be His Heghenes sould be none warand to make the same mair forsseable againes anie just quarreill of thair formair ryghtes nor gif the same had not beine granteitt; and of thois thus confident he wold sieke nothing of thaime except it war the doubleing of the retour of thair lands, or sutche smaill thing for thair acknowledgement; declerieng His Heighnes cair wold be that sick as was wretters and seallkeippers to His Hieghnes sould not hawe libertie to wse thair ordinarie extortioune in thois maitters: and for performeing of this cours, he declerit no commissioune to be com with him, bot that he expectit Sir James Foullertoune or Sir Adame Newetoune, or some of thois of greatest experience, to come shortlie with warand to that effect, and joinne with the counsall heir quhair their possible before his partour. If they come, they bring anie derectioune to him, to make some short steye, and concure with thame in the bussines, as wnknaweing wnto him, so had he no ressoune to expect the same; His Hieghenes laying no sutche thing to his charge at his partour. Thus discours endeit, findeing him deill so kyndlie with me, I enterit brusklie with him vpoune the ressoune of this presumeit coldnes was idlie fallein further betuixt your lordship and him, for quhilk I knewe no resoune, speciallie since I hard your lordship oft tymes make relatioune of the familliaritie and love that was amongst yow in France; and at my first goeing wpe with your lordship, notwithstanding at that tyme my Lord Symmersydd was his patroune, and our partie, zit did I see him so kynd and respectiwe to zour lordship, that I admirreit what sould be the subject of the cheinege supposit, aither in your lordship or his pairt. He reletteit heir vpoune unto me quhowe farr he was misteine be your lordship being employet (vpoune my Lord Ogheltryes procurment,) be my Lord Symmersedd, to deill with my Lord Lawdoune, quhome of he had some frinsheipe and kynred, to drawe on ane mariadge betuixt Sir James his brother, and the lady the Maisteris dochter, for injoyeing with hir of hir estait; not intending in anie sort, be his knawledge, your lordship prejudice in the remanent of the erledome, His Majesteis favour obteneit, quhilk ever he could hawe waitt at ane tyme: makeing his cour-

tesie to your lordship, he fund your lordship retourne him ane wnknown and wnkynd countenence unexpectit; lykas since he had hard your lordship had concewit some sinistrious conceptiouns of him, quhairbye, thoe he could not ingoye ane accustomeit familliarietie, zit protestit did not change his affectioune, bot when your lordship sould better consyder of him, he sould priew the old one. Findeing him soe dispositt, I gawe him assurence it was bot mirr mistakein in bothe syddes, and that it was bot eiwill instruments that tuik the advantadge to make ideill reportes to aithir. Thairfor, since it pleisit him to doe me that honor, to saye he did accompt of me as ane father—esteimeing I had some credit at your lordships hands—(I wold presume) and wold have the old Parisienne familliaritie renewit;—hawe you as brither againe. His answer was, he protestit befor God, I sould command him: and farther, that for anie grouge he had, he sould nawer see your lordship so soune, bot he wold glaidlie rynne to your lordship to doe your lordship all the honour and seruice he could. Lykas zisterday, comeing from Brocksmythe, my Lord of Roxbroughe being with him, wpoune ane litle takeine of kyndenes past betuixt him and me, being heir at my house in his goeing to Seatoune, of his awne accord he reiteriet the professioune of his affectioune and respect towardes your lordship wnto me; for quhilk, becaws his dyatt is not certaine, meineing no less wnto me, thaine for anie thing he knewe, within tenne or twailf dayes, he wold dresse himself to Court againe, I could wishe your lordship with all conuenient diligence to cast yow heir, and lett me knawe before your dayett; becaws I assuire your lordship, to my weake judgement, I estime it als materiall your lordship war in intyrre and essential frinsheipe with him as all most with anie; haweing sutche power of the Prince his eirr, and creditt with His Hieghenes. As I protest all the consyderatioune I had to work so farr as my weakenes could vpoune him was onlie for your lordship respect, the farther remittit to your lordships moir judicious consyderatioune. My dewe service rememberit, sall ewir continowe

Your Lordships most affectionat and obedient wncle and servitour,

Hadingtoune, this 9 June 1629. W. Setoun.

To the richt noble and my most speciall guid lord, my Lord the Erle of Eglingtoun.

Robert Bruce of Kinnaird to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 2nd September 1629.

84. Madam—I cannot tell at quhat schole yowr ladyship hes beine at; bot surlie yowr ladyships last letter smelled of grace, had ane fragrant perfume of the doctrine of the Holie Spirit. I sie yowr ladyships cross is sanctified. I fear ze had mister of patience, that efter ze have done His will, ze may report His promeiss. Ther is nothing that assures me mor of yowr electione. Suppose ze be vnequallie yoked, it is for yowr guid and for yowr humiliation; for yowr ladyship is sent to yowr prayer to be verie earnest that the eies of the instrument that exerceisses yowr ladyship may be illuminat, and the persone sanctified, whither it be he or she, they may become a sueit and gracious comfort to yow: and in the mean tym, the Lord strenthen yowr ladyship that He lay no mor vpon yowr ladyship nor He gives yow strenth to bear. Indeed it knites my

heart wnto your ladyship, for I sie clearlie the Lord hes appointed yow to be a wessel of honore. This is the crosse of Christ that is vpon yowr ladyship, and it will sanctifie the domestick. I never fand yowr ladyship so redolent; if I wer neir yow, I wald gar yow smell mor in my mynd; bot as it is, ze shall have my inteir affectione, with my humble deprecation that my sueit Lord may supplie my want, and not onlie doe yowr ladyship guid, bot all that is in yowr case. Ze wald be a formall Christian, madam, if ze vanted that; — a painted sepulchure, ane outvard professor. Bot now ze beir, the force of religione is at yowr heart; and now ze must wait on quhill He that hes laid it on, in His sueittest mercies tak it off, and raise yow vpe comforts of yowr childreine, and of some of yowr brethreine and vthers about zow, to strenthen yowr ladyships invard man, that he faint not, and that he grow not wearie. I have wreattine to Mr. David, your nichbowr, myself, and so I will hald in yowr ladyships travelles. So with my best affectiounes, for indeed, Madam, I wold glaidlie tak a pairt of yowr ladyships burdeine off yow; and that quhilk I cannot doe, I vill commend it to ane quho will doe it indeed, as I sie He doeth it alreadie; to quhoes suiettest mercies I commend yowr ladyship, childreine, and all, and so restis

Your ladyships most loveing cusing and faithfull freind,

Kynnaird, the ii of September 1629.

Mr. Josias Welsch to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 19th October 1632.

85. Madame—I have made bold to writte these few lynes to your ladyship, hauyng the conueniencye of this bearer. I confesse my neglect in this duetye; but truelie my indisposition and waunt of ane heart fit for anye good duetye hath beene my hyndraunce: but now, dead as I am, I aduenture, and speciallye beeying encouraged with good tydyngs that I haue to writte to your ladyship, which I know wil be as refreshyng as cold watters to ane wearye and faint person, to wit, the Lords worke prospereth gratiouslye in this countrey; it spreadeth abroad (blessed be His name!), and notwithstandyng the great opposition it hath, it flourisheth indeed lyke the palme tree: and euen the last Sabath in Antrim, ane English congregation, the superstitious forme of kneelyng at the sacrement put away, and the true paterne of the institution directlye followed, which was ane thyng that wee could neuer looke for in that place. It is true the worke hath beene opposed and sore set too, but, blessed be His Holines, it hath done no harme but good; for now the Lord worketh more in one day then in ten before; and where they flocked before, they flocke ten tymes more; sua that in this little church, Sunday was senyght, wee had aboue 14 or 15 hundreth at the sacrement; and neuer such ane day had wee from mornyng to nyght, without faintyng or wearines (prayse to His name). Such motion I never saw; new ones commying in that neuer knew Him before. Your ladyship shal be pleased to marque Gods wisdome, that since the

Bishop beganne to question us, there is, I dare say, aboue three hundreth that God hath taken by the heart that neuer knew Him before, and this within this 7 moneths: upon this condition long may we be in question, and neuer may the Bishop rest. And blessed be the Lord moroeuer, His wisdome hath sua disposed the matter that stil the scourge hath beene shakyng ouer our heads, and neuer remoued, but the execution delayed from tyme to tyme. He wil not let be laid on yet, hauyng ane respect of the weakenes of some who hath need to be better strengthned yet, and that others may yet be brought in; neither wil be remoued altogether, and sua keepeth the people a flocht, and giueth them not leaue to settle in securitye, but maketh them greedye to use their tyme wich is allotted them: and sua our God is wyse, and turneth their courses against themselfs for the furderaunce of His owne cause. Wee haue gotten tyme yet til May day, and that unexpectedlye contrarye to theer purpose; and I hope more good wil be done in this tyme, then all the malice of both diuels and men will be able to undoe.

As for you, elect ladye, what shal I say to you but what the Apostle sayeth to the Thessalonians, I. ep. 5 ch. 24 v., Faithful is he that hath called you, that wil also doe it; and thynk not straunge that you be exercised with tryals within and tryals without: most you not be baptised with the baptisme wherewith your Lord was baptised; if rare for grace, why not rare for crosses also? The Lord keepeth that wyse proportion with His owne: if you haue gotten the gold, will you not get the fyre also? I am of the mynd that yet greater tryals are abydyng us: The Lord prepare us and make us readye. Now I most draw to ane end, hauyng troubled your ladyship with these confused and undigested lynes onlye to show my duetye to your ladyship, wich, if they be seasonnable or acceptable, I shal endeaoure myselfe ofter in this.

Now the God of all grace, who hath called you to the fellowshyp of His Sonne, and endowed you with rare grace, after you have suffred ane whyle, make your ladyship perfect, stablish and strengthen you; and with my dayly poor wysses to that effect for your ladyship, I rest

Your humble seruant in the Lord,

Templepatrick, this 19th of October 1632. Wm. Josias Welsh

I humblye intreat your ladyship for ane copie of the letters your ladyship hath of my fathers; for the Primat hath laid ane charge upon me to get the copye of all his letters and send them to him. My wyfe and my sister hath their humble salutations rememberd to your ladyship.

To the ryght honorable and my werye good ladye, my Ladye Countesse of Eglintowne, duellyng at Eglintowne. These.

The Honourable Henry Montgomerie, second son of the sixth Earl of Eglintone, to the Countess, his mother, 6th November 1632.

86. My veri honourable lady and most affectionat mother — So vith this occasioune, as vith all others, ever remembring your ladyship vith my evill lynes, letting you ounderstand of my present

estait, quhilk is good, praysed be God! and longing much to hear the lyke from your ladyship, and my lord, and all freinds, and vith all my best affectionat prayers for your ladyships good halth and hapeines, I rest

Your ladyships most obedeient sonne to dathe,

Sommer, 6 of November 1632. H. Montgomerey

I haue hade the fortoune heir vher I am to falle in verei good coumpani, being heir tou nefeuis of Monseur le Counte Montgomery, vith a grat maynei of other veil borin genteilmen, all of them being of the releigeon.

To my veri honourable lady and most louing mother, the Countes of Egleintone.

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, 18th December 1632.

87. My lord and loving brother — This bearer beyng mor aible to informe zour lordship of all better then I can be this paperr, am only to geive zour lordship most hairtely thankes for remembering us with mor of zour lordships stronge cheisse then we can possible make usse of; for I thinke the former shall serve us zitt till Easterr. The Lord Scottstorbett come home zesternicht; he does assure us that His Maiestie will zitt conteinnou his resolutioune to be heire the 13 of June nixt, notwithstanding of all our forraine gritt accidents. He does lykwys assure us that the Bisschope of Rosse and M^r^ Jhone Maxwell does conteinnou in the chaindge of their plaices, and that Sir Jhone Hay is Clerke of Registerr: the Earle of Stratherne is maide to qwyte that title, and is to take ane remissioune; beyng saide also that all was upon that service will be ordained to take remissiounes. This beyng all we heare zitt, assured that whatt rests Williame will be mor aible to informe zour lordship fullie thairof. Till farther occasioune, remembering all our hairteliest service, with our best wissches of all happines to zour lordships selfe, and zour haille sweitt chilldreine, as ever rests,

Zour lordships treuly loving brother and servaunt,

Seatoune, the 18 of December 1632. WINTOUN.

To my verry honnorable lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune.

The same to the same, 9th January 1633.

88. My lord and loving brother — As we ar most glaide to heare of the happie conteinnouance of zour lordships good healthe, and zour chilldreine; so is itt all I can best assure zour lordship of the lyke from all zour lordships freinds heire with us. The bearer will schaw zour lordship whatt

he heares that may be zitt trusted by the Earle of Stratherne his returne, except that the Clerke of Registerr, who come home with him, was receaived the nixt day to all the dignities of his office: all farther may concerne the staitte rests unvented as zitt, if any be, till the counsell meitte this nixt weike; whair I will not be, bot zour lordship may be assured we shall be cairefull to acquent zow timely with all that occurrs heire daylie, worthe the hearring. What shall becumm of his service, or if he shall chaindge his title againe, we haive no certaintie aszitt. We heare that Mr Nikoll and his compleices ar to be sende home to prissoune, to sufferr thair tryell heire. The treuth is, my Lord Chancelaire is the only mann hes stayed his Maiesties harder censouring of all that was treuly exposed unto him at this tyme. We hear the Queine of Boheme should be at our Courte be this; but itt war better for our maister to haive hir with tenn thousande good menn in the Pallatinatt, to protect hir thair. Sum sayes the Lord Hum is ayther deade allreddie, or at leist will not putt aff longe: nothing (to my gritt regraitte) mor certaine then His Maiesties cumming this zeire to this countrey. As for good maissounnes sutch as zour lordship wold haive, I haive none at this present myself can be zitt spaired, or zitt upon any conditioune will pairte from this countrey, beyng all bot laitely mairried, and so mutch adoe heire aboutt Edinburgh for thaime; bot your lordship may be assurred I will doe my best, with the Master of Worke his helpe, to gett zow served if possible heire so soone as may be: as not only in this, bot whairin els I can be any ways steidable, zour lordship may be assured of all deutie in the pairte of

Zour lordships most affectionned brother and servaunt,

Seatoune, this 9 of Januare 1633. WINTOUN.

To my verry honnorable lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune. These.

The Lords of Privy Council to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 19th March 1633.

89. After our verrie heartlie commendationis to your good lordship. Whereas the Kings Maiestie is resolued, God willing, in this approatching sommer, to honnoure this his antient kingdome with his royall presens, alsweill for receaving of his croun, as for holding of ane Parliament, whilk is proclamed to be holdin at Edinburgh, and to begin vpone the 18 day of Junii nixt, with continuatioun of dayes; at the whilk solemnitie His Maiestie lookes that the noblilitie of this kingdome, oute of thair dewtiefull respect to His Maiesties obedience, and to the honnoure and credite of there countrey, will giue there presens and assistance; and thairfoir, according to His Maiesties directioun sent vnto ws in this mater, these are to requeist and desire youre good lordship to prepare your selff, and to be in readines to keepe the appointed tyme of these solemniteis in that statlie and decent forme as besemeth the dignitie of suche actionis; viz., with your rob of crymson velvet enamered, and your croun at the coronatioun, and with your scarlot rob at the Parliament: and naways doutting that yow wilbe wanting in anie thing, whilk to your dewtie in so important a bussines, and quhilk so neerlie concerning His Maiestie in honnour and estate is the first that hes

occurred in this kingdome of that kynd, belongeth, wee comitt your lordship to God. From Halyruid Hous, the xix day of March 1633.

Youre lordships verrie good freinds,

A. ERSKYNE. HADINTON.
DUNKELD. WINTOUN.
ARCH. ACHISON.

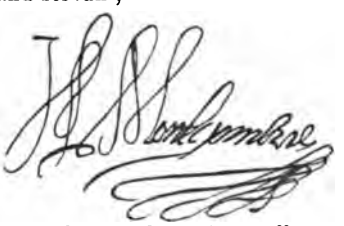
To our verie honourable good lord,
The Earl of Eglintoun.

Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, 6th April 1633.

90. My very honorable lord and most loving father — Loinging to heir of yowr lordships weilfair, I have taikin the boldnes to trubell your lordship with ther disordered lyns, schawing your lordship, that wpon the Fryday after I left your lordship, I touk jurnay from Setoun and cam that night to Dumbar, accumpanied with my Lord Seton, Sir Jone and Weallame Setoun; and wpon Setterday morning I tuk lyve of them, and cam to Berric at night, quhair I restid the Sabith, and from thens I cam jurnay to Natherbie; bot (in respect of the incommodeti of the horses, quhilk for most pairt war all lem) ther I tuk post, thinking that thy sould have beine in good case be thy had cum to Lundon; and left with the horses Mr. James and Neill Hendray, quho fell also sik by the way. In end thy cam all heir; bot I think with much deficultie thy schall hold out the jurnay. As for the boy, he is very sik as zit; and as for my self, praised be God, I had very good helth all the way, and never in my lyfe was better at my self, and cam heir about Setterday at tulve hourse, and rested all that day, and wpon Sunday sent to Orbistanne for to know hou my Lord Marquis was, quho schow me he was very sik of fiver, as so it was, and that no cumpanie at all cam neir him, bot only the doghters; sua that I did sie non at all befor Tysday that I saw him; and then he being in thus case, I did accommodat my self to my Lord Carllill, quho did me the honor to present me to the King, quho resavid me very graciusly: and as for my Lord Cairlill, he not only did me thus honor, bot also he tuk me to denner with him, and all thus tyme Sir James Livingston did never live me, informing me ever quhat I suld do. Sua it was thoght best, in respect of my schort stay, that I sould not sie the Quin, because of the miscontent scho was in for the present with the Treserour soun, my Lord Wasson, being embassodor, for enterscepting a pacit of Hir Maiesties and my Lord Hollonds, derected to the Chevaler de Par, and sent bak by Lord Wasson to His Maiesti: quherwpon at my Lord Wasson homcuming, my Lord Hollon did schailleng him to the combat; quhilk being gotten notise of by the King, my Lord Hollon was confind to his oune chamber during His Majisties plisur, quch hes bred the Quin grit mescontent. As for newes, we haue non, bot all matires gos very weill in Jermany; for ther is a let defet given by the Langgrave of Hassin to the Emperours Lewtennat Generall, betuixt the Weser and the Elbe. Praised be God, my Lord Marquis is convalesing, and cums furth out of his chamber tomorrow. I purpose, God willing, wpon the 9 of this instant at the fardest, to pairt from this, and mynes to schip at Dover for Bowlon; and from that, according to your lordships derection, to Cain

during your lordships plisur; quhilk is thoght the best be every on. Sua ceissing to trubll your lordship farder, wissing yow all helth and happines, I rest

Your lordships obedient soun and servant,



London, the 6 of Apryll 1633.

Houping your lordship will appardon my boldnes to remember my love and servic to all my brithering and sisters, and my blissing to my doghter.

Ther is many things that I have forgot to schow your lordship of curtisis and kyndnes I have resavid of many frinds hir, and particularly of Sir Hery Ven, quho desyred me, standing by the King at denner, to dener with him.

To my rycht honorable lord and most loving father, my Lord the Erlle of Eglinton.

James Master of Ross to James Lord Ross, his father, 30th July 1633.

91. My lord — Being stroken with soroue uhen I hard of your lordships last siknes, and uith ioy for your happie recouerie, I haue heir taken the boldnes to uryt thir feu lyns unto your lordship, shauing you that, prased be God! uee ar in good health, and uishes the lyk unto your lordship: for in consience the poets saying sall neuer hold treu one my pairt, ' Filius ante diem patrios ' inquirit in anno;' for I doubt if euer I sall be aibel to fill your lordships roome. I pray God giue me grace to folou footstaps uhich sall euer be my ambition; bot fearing to trobel your lordship, praying God that I may hear good nouels from your lordship, I comitt you to the protection of God, and rests your lordships louing and obedient sonne to death,

Cain, the 30 of Julie 1633.

To my uerie honorabel good lord, my Lord Rooss. Thes.

Walter, first Earl of Buccleuche, to Margaret Scott, Lady Ross, his sister, 4th October 1633.

92. Sister — I haue had only one lettre from you befoir I vnderstud that my lord your husband had bein hevily seike, and you comed to London to hym. The news off hys seiknes and recuvery come att one tyme to me; quhair as I vas sorey for the one, I vas glaid for the other off hys recovery. If this come to your hands in London, I pray you send this other pakett to Scotland

vithe seure diligence; for they be most about my particular affaires att this terme: the other vithe yours send them as they be directett att London. I have hard no news off my children this long tyme: I long to heir off them. I am to be att home about the terme, so I vill remitt all particular busines to then I sye you, bothe concerning my children and other busines. I am not certaine off ony sure convoy off lettres, othervays I had oftener ryttin to you. I haue note had on memorye from your frind; all violent humeurs passes, viche is best. I pray you remember me to your lord and husband, and tell hym from me thair is non shall vische hys helthe and prosperite more nor I,

Your brother and his servant,

From the Armie at Viset, the 4 of October 1633.

Burrleuthe

To my sister the Lady Ross at London.

Alexander Montgomerie, third son of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to his father, 8th November 1633.

93. My right honourable lord and most louiug ferrer — Thir lines ar to shaw your lordship that all frindes her ar in guud heleth, pressed be God! and that we think all uerie mutes long to her from your lordship; and that it is thri moneth sines that I receued ani letteres from your lordship; and that I am in Peries, and hes be goun my exercies to fenes and danes with your lordships oled mester Anglea; and that my fencin and dansin extendes monthli to 25 lib. 10 soues, and my mathamatikes monthli to 8 lib. 10 s. Bot concernin my reyeddin, my bririn uil not let me begin it uil I hef dereksion fre your lordship, uich I expec day bifor; and that aer all the girrer in pencion and peyes fortin crouenes in moneth, for bay mani extreordineres. And at my ariuel in Perris I touk of a sout of cloth of sil, uherof ther aer four elles for clothes and kassak, uith fowr elles of pax for leyen my kassak uith; uich med en end of the monnies uich I had restin, and that I did shou your lordship: of the monneies whech Uillem Home did lif uith me, uas sax hondred markes thricor and fortin; and that yowr lordship shal resef the couent hou the list penni was spent. And as for the rest of the sayed monnies, your lordship had the menner of the deporesmentes in Uillem Home's countes; and that your lordship shal receue anorrer couent of the monnies uhich my brorrer Hendri hes deporesd sines my ariuel in Peries. And as for mysalef, I hef not a penni bot as my brorer Hendri fornis me. Bot I am expecing dayli for comanscien fre your lordship. Bot to tel yowr lordship truli, uer all louking errer for monnies, or elis for a letter uher your lordship thinkes to fornis ous; for I uil asor your lordship ther not moutes monies amongst us all. And as for neues, I uoled hef wreten them to your lordship, uer not I knou that my bririn hes wreten them to your lordship; and that your lordship shall know that my breren is meyended to tak on ther treueles in mertes, and that Lord Uillem Hameltouen goes uith ous. Bot housoeuer uel all atend your lordship's derektiones. Hes not ail to trubel your lordship anni ferder. Praying to God to continou your

lordship in all hellth and hapines, with my blissien to Ledi Margrit, Ledi An my sister, and to Jemes and Robert uith all owr frindes, I rest your lordship's obedient son to deth,

Parries, Nouember 8 day, 1633. ALEXANDER MONTGOMERY.

To my verie honorable lord and most dire louinge father, the Eearel of Eglentouen. This.

Lady Anna Cunynghame, Marchioness of Hamilton, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 8th August [1633 or 1634].

94. My nobil lord — I long to kno' if your lordship and al our childring be in good helth. This last day I resaued lettirs from my soune out of Paris. I thank God he is weil. Your lordship's eldest soune and Handrie and he, was going to la Mot. Bot I heir it was thocht it wald be takin in or thay com thair. I have tyme to say no moir, bot I am

Your lordship's asouired to sarue you,

Halayroudhous, viii of Agaust.

To my warie honoured good lord, the Erl of Eglingtoune.

The same to the same [c. 1634].

95. My nobil lord — Your manay caynd favouris hes med me afttin weich that I micht heue the occation to geiue your lordship testimonie of my wilingnes to repay it hom. And nou it hes pleisit God to offir ane occation of ounsepirabil frindcheip betuix your lordshīp's hous and this I am in, if it pleis your lordship ekcepit. You sal haue ane most nobil and louing meitting, as this beirer wil scho your lordship; he may say baith from me and meist particoulerly frome my soune. For I moist confes thair is non in the kingis dominionis I aithir can or will in my hart desayr so harttily to tak be the hand as your lordship and your soune. And if ye giue me not the meitting that I and mayne both desayris and desarueis, the blem sal be in your lordship's selue. Bot do as pleis your lordship. I sal be yours affectioned to serue you,

ANNA CUNYNGHAME.

Lat this remembir my serueis, and my dochtir Annais, to your lordship's eldest and best soune, my Lord Heue.

To my most honoured kind nobil lord, the Erll of Eglingtoune.

The same to the same [c. 1634].

96. My nobil lord — My dochtir Anna is so ernest ane agent for to effectouat your lordship's desayr, that I most yeild to geiue your lordship and hir content, to go on weith the marieg of my

youngest dochtir oupon Fuirisday nixt. If your lordship weil be pleisit to com heir oupon Winisday, we sal be the moir glaid of so good companie. Hou so euir I moist beseik your lordship lat your soune, my Lord Mongomrie, com. For I mynd not to beid non leiuing be heir, and tak them to the chourche quhen non knois it. For your lordship's importinaci, and my dochtiris, is the only resoun I dou it in that fachoun. Bot I confes it giuis al pairttis an greit content. I houp your lordship will make this remembir my serueis to your lady, and think I sal be euir your lordships effectioned to serue, ANNA CUNYNGHAME.

My lord, I houp this will giue your lordship content, sinc it is purchist be your seruant,

ANNA HAMMILTON.

To my honourabil and mouch respeckit lord, the Erl of Eglingtoune.

The same to the same, 31st December [c. 1635].

97. My nobil lord — Longing to kno the esteit of your lordship and your childring, and our young oye, I haue meid chois to troubbil your lordship with this lettir, rathir then to keip longer seilens. Harttily bege I of God to geiue your lordship and them al the blising that is wichit be hir that sal be euir your lordship's effecteonet to serue you,

Euendel, last Desembir. ANNA CUNYNGHAME.

I man neuir forgot to reneue my souit to beg of your lordship the keiping of our oye my tyme about.

To my warie honoured good lord, the Erll of Eglington.

The same to the same [c. 1635].

98. My warie honoured lord — I am sorie at my hart for the seiknes of our oye. I pray the Lord, if it be His wile, spair hir dayis that I may haue the houp of confort in hir: for so long as I heir of hir helth it giues me joye, and ane greit deil of satisfaccion for all my lois. Bot hir seiknes is hiuie and sensibil to me. Bot the will of my good God be doine! Bot if it plis Him, harttily wald I beg of Him to spair hir days. For it is He only quho gaue hir layf can presarue it. I neuir dout bot your lordship will cair for hir als mouche as I can dou, and lat hir laick nothing. If it be ane cald, I beseik your lordship gar give hir offtin soukir candie: and in the nicht mak hir eit it as the host commis on hir. Give hir stoufit ploumdames, and anything that may mak hir baly opin. If scho can be mouifit to tak ane berie with honnay in it, it will dou hir good. So praying the Lord to blis hir, and my seruis remembirit to your lordship and al your childring, especially to good Lady Margret, your lordship's dochtir, I rest

Your lordship's effeccioned to sarue you,

I beseik your lordship stil aduertis me hou scho is. ANNA CUNYNGHAME.

For my honoured good lord, the Erl of Eglington.

The same to the same [c. 1636.]

99. My nobil lord — I most giue your lordship harttily thankis for your lordship's aduertisment of the good apeirens of our oyis good sens. Sche hes her teith. I troust in His merci that is the giueer of al strenth, that He sal spair hir dayis, for the confort of theis that loueis hir deirly. As for your lordship's monays that your lordship is creuing, I scheue your lordship that to that contrack be registerit, and that I sei my oye meid souir of that layttil meinis is apuintit to hir, I am serten your lordship's auin deiscrescion wil moue you not to seikit; and yeit hou secuir! I houp ye will lat me sei that chayld. Souir I think ze wil sei my soun quhen the King comis; and than ye may ask of him his auin mynd. So wiching your lordship happines, I res

Your lordships assured to serue you,

ANNA CUNYNGHAME.

To my warie honoured good lord, the Erl of Eglington.

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th February 1634.

100. My lord and loving brother — Beyng forced by Rothesse to keipe this days meitting with the Earle of Mortoune, the Lord of Almonde, nou the Earle of Dunfermeline, his professed father in lau, and the Lord Zesterr, anent the setling of our Coosseines bussines, was so distracted from the Commissioune, as I could not zitt learne what hes beine doone thair this efternoone; not doutting bot zour lordships good freinde Laurence, who wold attende, will not faille to acquent zou thairwith: and as farther occurrs this nixt day, in whatt shall be funde necessaire, zour lordship shall be acquented thairwith, God willing, tymely aneuch: only, will not ommitt to remember that ze be most cairefull to expedd all zour valuatiounes of zour kirkes of erectioune so soone as possible; and that ze may preisse to make zour best conditiounes, both for finall setling with the heritoures, as also with zour ministers for thair augmentatioune and setled provisioune in tymes cumming, so soone as possible: for all the kirkes of erectioune ar to be only first handeled, and verry lyke ze will not get so good quarters heire; beyng to be verry war also that ze doe not dealle with any of zour feuares or vassells for new richts to be taikne of zou againe, sence zour renunciatioune in favoures of his Maiestie, in respect of ane laitte letter sende doune and enacted, bearring verry haivie conditiones against all those who is thocht does goe about so to coosseine his Maiestie; beyng not to be afrayde bot his Maiestie may be moved to geive zour lordship upon faire dealling better conditiounes of zour small pairte herefter: whitch beyng all wealle considered by your lordship till farther may offer, as ever, rests

Zour lordships affectioned brother and servaunt,

Cannogaitte, this 9 of Februar 1634. WINTOUN.

To my verry noble lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune. These.

The same to the same, 26th September 1634.

101. My noble lord and loving brother — I received this day ane pacquett of letters from our cooseine Sir Jhone Seatoune, by the returne of Hew Scott of Gallascheilds, whairin this inclosed was to zour lordship, which I rakleslie brake up, thinking itt hadd beine to myself; whair I fande ane other to me besyd, with other two to myself only, from my lord zour soonne and his brother Harie, schauing me they ar both wealle, and reddie nou by thair returne hither, to obey zour lordships commandements. At the wrytting heirof the Frenche gentlemann whom zour lordship recommended to Hendrie Seatoune come hither with him; and is nou attending the first good occasioune, aythor of schipping or lande companie, to goe touards Londone; finding himself mutch beholdne and verry happie of zour lordships caire to putt him whair he getts so good helpe. In this ydle tyme, if not bussie with our hairvest, we heare zitt of nothing, except that itt hes pleased his Maiestie to direct his letterr to the toune of Edinburgh by the Clerk of Registerr his draucht, recommended the followuing thairof to the Earle of Hadintoune, who sitting in Counsell with thaime this last Wadinsday, delyvered the same; commanding, as we heare, and willing thaime to choyse David Aikneheide againe for thair Proveist, Jhone Synklaire, Deane of Gilde, David Macka, Treasourer, Erchibald Todd, Edward Edzerr, Alexander Speire, and Alexander Denistoune bailzies: bot the toune, as I heare, intends to please his Maiestie so far as they can in making thair aune choyse. My wyfe is nou every day waitting when itt shall please God to make hir frie: bot zour lordships soonnes and all zour freindes heire ar zitt wealle, praised be God! Wissching hairtiely all happie conteinnouance of the lyke to zour lordships self, and all zour good companie thair, as ever rests zour lordships most loving brother and servaunt,

Seatoune, this 26 of September 1634. WINTOUN.

To my verry noble lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune. These.

Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 10th September 1634.

102. Richt honorable — I recevit your lordships last letter by my niece Elizabeth Forrester; by the which I vnderstand that your lordships childrin ar to cum to London schortly. Iff it pleas God I be in helth, I sal wait vpon them and mak them hertlie welcome; bot it sould ad a littil to my rejoicing to sie your lordship heir with them; for in conscience I long michtelie to sie yow. I hier that your lordship hes your sonnes at the schoole in the Pans, and doeth me the honor to send my sonne with them, who is a burdin to your lordship. Indeed, my lord, I am aschemid he sould be so trublesom to yow, except that it is your lordships pleasour to gratifie me; wherof I sal never be vnmyndful: for I confes I haue more testimonies of loue from your lordship then from anie living creatour this day. And whereas your lordship desyrs I schal provyd for him, in good faith my lord, if he be anie thing worthie, or anie houps that he wil proue to be good, he sal haue all that I haue efter my deth: for it seems God is not

pleased to grant me lauful childring. His mother is a gentilwoman of a good family in Germany, and the boy hes many riche frends of his mother syd there; bot I desyre this may be keipt betwix your lordship and my self: and, so soun as I com to Scotland, I will see to haue my bussines put to that poynt that I maye haue a memorie of my fathers house to be setlit in sum place in Scotland by your lordships advyce. It hes been told me that your lordship hes hard that I haue been informed my sonne wes not wel wsed: I promis yow, my lord, I never hard such a thing, but alweyis the contrarie; and I know your lordship hes geven command to wsse him to well: bot this I hard, that he wes a littal scabbit (with reverence I maye speak it); and because he wes farre from your lordship, I desyred Henrie to looke to it. We haue had littil neuis this month, and nou I can tell your lordship nothing of great moment, saue that we hear that the Dyette at Francforte is lykly to end well, and with contentment both to the Prince and to the Swedins. The King of Vngaria efter he had taken in Donauwerte, which is a passage in Bavaria: he marched his armie towards Nordlingen, 4 Duche myls towards Neurenberg from Donauwerte, the which place he caused batter with cannons, and assaltid the town at two brechis which he maid; bot wes repulsed by the corage off the garrison. Gustavus, soon hearing that he wes incroching into Germany, resolved to gif him battel; and to this end joynd his armie with Duk Bernards, and so merched towards the King off Vngarie: bot he hearing of his cuming brok up the sege, and maid hes retreat to Donauwerde; bot before he could be saue into Bavaria, 2000 horsmen, (for this 2000 hors maid the retrait to the Kings armie,) bettin to peecis by Duk Bernards horsmen. So this is the first effront this King hes gottin, and a great on: I houp his pryde wilbe a littil laid. Ther wes a spech, or rether ane aspersion, laid upon Gustavus Hern, for not being willing to relieve Ratisbona; bot the veritie is known why theis 2 armies sindert then: itt wes of necessity, for the publique well of Germany; and for no jelosie amangst themselfs. It can not chuse bot ther most be more battels focht for determining the great bissiness of Germany. The Prince of Orange wes once laid downe before Breda, bot it is said that he is gon from it again: for his desyne wes to amuse the enemie til he should haue gott in a secourse into Mastricht which is beseget: bot it is reported the convoye off the Estets is bettin. The Estets assuredly most losse that place in respect it is so far from their reiche. This is all what I can informe your lordship at this tyme til better occasion, which I sal not pretermit; and so I kiss your lordships hands, who am eternally, my lord,

Your lordships most humble and faithful servand til death,

London, the 10 of 7ber 1634. JOHAN SETON.

I pray my lord let this present my humble service to theis sweet nimphs your lordships dochters; I pray for good husbands to them.

I forgot to advertis your lordship that the King of France hes now gottin possession of Edenheim, which the Spanzards called Philipsburg, the strong hould vpon the Rhyne; and hes sent Sir Johne Hepbron with ten thousand men for the assistance of the Princes into Germany.

To the richt honorable my verie noble worthy good lord and special patron,

my lord the Erl of Eglinton.

Sir Johne Setone, Lieutenant of the Scots Guard to the King of France, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 30th November 1634.

103. My vorthe lord — It is so lang sins I hard from zou, that I lang to heir of zour vielfair, sins zour adois did not permet zour voyag to London. Zour twa eldest sons are be this vithe zour lordship, God uilling. As for zour thrid son, he is taking pennans vith me til he enter in seruis; quhilk vilbe at the first day of the nixt zeir, God uilling. Al our neus consist vpone the happe returne of Monsieur, and many greit mariages for confirming of frindschip: sum expekit for paice, bot ther is gretter oppinion of vairs. As I salbe informit, I sal aduertis zour lordship, as ane that is, my lord, zour lordships most humbel seruiteur,

Paris, 30 Nouember 1634. J. Setone.

To my verray honnorabel and nobel lord, the Earl of Eglington. Thes.

Sir David Cuningham of Robertland [?] to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 22nd November 1634.

104. May it please your honour to suffer these as well to acknowledge the receipt of your lordships last letter, as to plead excuse in not giueing accompt thereof till now. If there hade beene any possibilitie or power in me to haue done your lordships right noble sonnes seruice heer, I should haue much reioiced in that felicitie; God knowing my heart how willing I should haue beene, and how happie I should think my self in their commandments. Dureing the short time they haue beene heer, their discreet and well fashioned cariage and behauiour hath beene such as hath gained fauour and respect from all. Touching this bearer, your lordships honorable sonne, it hath pleased him to fauour me by his secret and discreet impartinge vnto me his provident and laudable intencion, which I did and do very much approve, and most heartilie wish and desire if it could be happlie effectuate; but I see no probabilitie to go through without your lordships own personall presence and powerfull intercession to His Majestie, as well by your lordships owne humble suite, as by the assistance of some of your lordships best friends heer: for heer is many great men of this nation pressing the same nature of suite; but few or none yet hath gott any assurance or promise that I can learne. Such is the secret plotting and policie of this state, that no doubt they indirectlie oppose and endeauour to keep our nation out of any eminent place or imployment, so farre as they can; yet I am in hope that your lordships presence and earnist solicitation might preuaile with His Majestie, which I most heartilie wish and leaue to your lordships wise consideration. So ceasing to importune your lordship, ever acknowledgeing and rendering humble thanks for all your lordships extraordinarie fauours, for which I am bound, and euer shall remaine your lordships most humble and faithfull seruant,

London, 22 Nouember 1634. D. Cuningham.

To the right honorable his most singuler good lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. These.

The same to the same, 2nd December 1635.

105. May it please your lordship—Takeing incouragement from the experience of your lordships manyfold fauours, I haue presumed to accompanie this inclosed now, which I intended long ago, but a tedious sicknes of five moneth long prevented me. Concerning your lordships noble sonne, Mr. Henry, out of my dutie and good wishes, vnder your lordships favour and correction, I should haue much desired that your lordship would haue beene pleased to haue wrought his advancement into the Prince his bedchamber: something of this I was bould to write heretofore; and if your lordship should haue any such resolution, it is (as I conceaue) time annough, there being none yet admitted or publicklie knowne for that preferment, except Mr. Charles Murray, sonne of the late Secretarie: neither is there yet any appearance of the Prince his creation, though wee coniecture it is like to be within two or three years. But this worke will hardlie be got done without your lordships personall solicitation and earnist intersession to His Majestie, with the concurrance of some other powerfull friends; for many great mens sonnes heer are ayming at this mark, the place being great and honorable: the consideration whereof I leaue to your lordships wisedome. I should think my self happie if in this or any other thing I could do your lordship and yours humble seruice. I beseech your lordship to pardon my incivill intrucion and bouldnes. So I humblie kisse your lordships hands, and vowe to remaine

Your lordships most obliged humble seruant,

London, 2 December 1635. D. CUNINGHAM.

To the right honorable his most singuler good lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. These.

John, sixth Earl of Rothes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 21st November 1635.

106. My uery honorit lord — As I was desyrouse of your lordships aprobation to this motion of my lord, your soons, so I am now contented to find the sam; and sall be most glad that abou all, nixt his dewty to God, that he aprow him self, as he is oblist, to your lordship, and will neuer doubt of your lou and cair of him. As for that your lordship requyrs me to be liberall for remouing of your soons burthens, I uill obey that most willingly; for that wertew is not so much in the quantity as in the disposition of the giuer. And I sall giu beyond my small power, and mor then euer I intended to haue don to any; both for the respect of your self, who is the father of that family, and for the good disposition of my lord your soon: and sall euer cary that trew respect, howsoeuer this succeid, as on that is allready obliged to be

Your lordships humbl seruant,

Leslie, 21 Nouembre 1635. ROTHES.

To my uery honourable good lord, the Earl of Eglintoun. Thes.

Thomas Viscount Wentworth, Lord Deputy of Ireland, to Lord Sempill [1636].

107. My very good lord — Haueing formerly, by Mr. Secretary Cokes letters of the 3d of February 1635, receiued a signification of His Majesties royal pleasure for the passing of three thousand acres plantation lande to your lordship, I shall in all humble obedience thereunto, and forth of my owne regards towards your lordship, be euer ready to contribute all seasonable assistance I may to the effectuall accomplishing of those His Majesties good intentions towards you. Howbeit, instantly to assigne you the precise particulars of tyme and place, when and where to set out your lordships proportion, whenas yet there is neither any diuision made of the Kings part from the natiues, nor the admeasurements halfe finished, your lordship will, in your owne judgment, I am assured, be very well satisfied that I cannot for the present doe. Soe that in those respects, I am inforced hereby to craue your lordships patience till further proceedings vpon the plantation affaire shall haue enabled me to giue your lordship such particular satisfaction as your lordship desires, and the nature of the business as yet admitts not of. So I rest

Your lordship's humble seruantt,

Lord Sempill.

James, third Marquis (afterwards first Duke) of Hamilton, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 7th May 1638.

108. My lord — It heath plesed his Majestie to command my repare home, as his Commissioner, against the 5 of June nixt. If itt shall pleise your lordship to honoure me so much as to meitt me at Dalkeith on the said day, itt shall euer be acknoledged as ane great token of your kyndnes and respeckt touart me; att which tyme I dare assure you I shall make knoen that which I ame confident will not only give your lordship content, but all thoes who eather loues his Majestie or cuntrie: wherby lykuys will appeir his Majesties goodnes, and the tender cayre he heath of that his antient kingdoume. And since the tyme is so neire, I trust yow will not take in ewill part thatt I enter not in particulares; in which respeckt I will say no more bot thatt I rest your lordships most affectionat freind and seruant,

Whythall, 7 May 1638.

For the right honorable the Earle of Eglington. These.

John, second Lord Balmerino, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th February 1639.

109. My noble lord — If any thing of importance had occurred since the Assemblie, except the performance of some directiones of the Assemblie, I would haue presumed to haue acquainted your lordship with our proceedings therein: but, except the sending of our supplication to the Kings Majestie, and the difficultie which the bearer thereof finds to gett his dispatche, ther is no great matter here, other then the rumours of huge preparations against vs, and our weake indevours for defence, with the help and protection of the Lord of Hosts. There is some hope of answer from the King toward the end of this moneth, which our last messinger is made to expect vnder His Majesties owne hand. Vpon this consideration the 20 of Februarii is appointed by the meeting of the Barons here, for returning hither of all their reports of diligence in answer to the generall instructions, whereof they haue given advertisment to their severall shires; and it is thought verie necessarie that a full number of the nobilitie should be here that day, to deliberat seriouslie of so great matters, whereof the consequence is so imminent and importing. If your lordships health may permitt, I hope no other impediment will barre vs of the happines of your lordships presence, and my lord your sons, which shalbee most acceptable vnto

Your lordships affectioned cousin and servand,

Edinburgh, 9 Februarii 1639.

My Lord Leslie is well recovered of his disease, praised be God! which was mistaken for a pleuresie. There is good hopes of my ladie his mother reverting with the season.

To the right honorable my verie noble lord, the Earl of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 16th February 1639.

110. My noble lord — I resaved this inclosed, as it is, — broken vp. It seemes to haue come by Ireland with the Master of Kirkudbricht, and so is of a stale date. I hope your lordship resaved a letter of myne sent by the Laird of Rowallan, to giue your lordship notice of our frequent meeting here, God willing, on Weddinsday next, the 20 Februarii; when your lordships presence is extremlie necessarie, for matters of greate importance then yet hath been heard in this great and glorious worke of our revived reformation. Occurrents heere are vncertain. George Wynram is not yet returned; nor like to come in hast. The Earle Montrose, Kingorn, my

brother Oldbar, and a great number of the Barons in Angus and Mearns, are gone to assist the noblemen and barons meeting of the shire of Aberdeen, at Turref, Thursday last; quhilk dyet the Marquis Huntlie threatned to interrupt. The Earle Mareshall is either gone with them, or sent all his people. The Laird of Innes, and our freinds benorth Spey, are with them also: the effects I hope your lordship will heare at meeting. Till then, and ever, I am

Your lordships loveing cousin to doe yow service,

Edinburgh, 16 Februarii 1639. BALMERINO.

I hope my lord your son will come along with your lordship, and pardon my not wreting to him for fault of laser.

To my noble and much honored lord, the Earl of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 21st December 1639.

111. My verie noble lord — I haue halted in wryting to your lordship these three dayes after the Comissioners returne, in expectatione of Brounhills return, that I might more fullie and freelie writ of all things to your lordship; bot hee is not yet comd, nor written to any, except a few lines to Mr. Alexander Henderson in the Commissioners company, excusing his not writing for reasons to be told at meeting; and shewing that he had staied long vpon his answer, which wes daylie promised to him, and scarcelie pleasd him when he gott it: for the Secretaire hes only written vpon the back of our Parlements supplication; and when he prest that the warrand of our Commissioners going vp might be vnder the Kingis hand, hee could not obtain it, but wes told by our freinds there that the Earl Stirlingis hand wes sufficient. The report of ane Irishe and an Englishe Parlement is current; and I thinke so shall ther be. Great threatinings of fortie thousand men levying presently, whereof fyve thousand horse. The Commissioner caried vp the honouris from the Abbay to the Castle of Edinburgh yesterday in his cotche; and hes a great number of letters from the King, to call vp such noblemen and others as he pleaseth to the Court. The Earle of Montrose is not yet gone; and in respect of Brounhills vntymous stay, I dare not desire any meeting of our Parlement men till we heare from him. I spoke at length with your lordships son concerning our officers, whom we must entertain now till the spring, and the dispersing of them among the shires is as much for entertaining them as for exerceising our people. The Lord Lowdoun and others haue taken large numbers of them; for they are to be intertaind vpon the publique charges: and whatsoever is bestowed vpon them wilbee allowed in the particular contributiones of releefe from everie shire. Your lordships Lieutenant Colonell Richardson wes resolved to bring no Captains with him, but a few inferiour officers, which I would intreat your lordship to giue way to, for good exemple to others: for incasse of service hereafter, your lordship may provide your self otherwise; and there wilbee enew to take him off your hand with thanks. If your lordship wilbee pleased to lat mee knowe what he hes resaved of his meanes, I wilbee carefull to see him satisfied of his arriers, and so send him with some vnder officers to

your lordship. Thus expecting to heere your lordships pleasour of this, and wherin els I can be serviceable, I am your lordships loving cousin and humble servand,

Edinburgh, 21 10ber 1639. BALMERINO.

The Lord Amont came hither safe from Holland last weeke, God be praised! of intention to stay. The report is, that two of the Prince Electours bretheren are also areisted in France, and his owne proces made there; but one of them called Maurice escaped, and is in Holland.

To my verie noble and much honored lord, the Earle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 10th February 1640.

112. My noble lord — Althogh your lordships son resident here will not faill to acquaint your lordship with our proceedings, yet in such an extraordinarie occasione as now vexeth vs here, I would not faill to shew your lordship the certaintie that on Thursday last, a ship of the Kings, about six or seaven score, called the Providence, came loded to Leeth Rode, having in a hunder prest sogers, three last of grain pouder, 80 musketts, 80 picks, with some few swords and corslets, and a number of round shott, quhairof thair is no scarcetie in Edinburgh Castle. One of the whelps, called the Expeditione, wes her convoy to keepe the prest sogers from rysing against their Captains schipman; and one Captain Slingsbie had the charge of that whelp when the Marquis Hamiltouns fleete lay here. By these inclosed duplicats your lordship will knowe the Kings commands to the Provest, and his desire of obedience; which is not like to take effect in hast.

Lieutenant Colonell Herres tooke leaue of mee for Holland Friday last: lat my Lord Montgomerie see to that in tyme. We haue heard nothing from our Commissioners since your parting. I hope your lordship will tryst your first letters at your cumming hither, which shalbee verie acceptable vnto your lordships loveing cousin to doe yow service,

Edinburgh, 10 Februarii 1640. BALMERINO.

To my verie noble and much honored lord, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Lady Elizabeth Seatoun, daughter of George, third Earl of Wintoun, and Countess Marischall, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglinton, 3rd June [c. 1640].

113. My lord and deir vncle — I haue recaued your lordships letter. Thir is nothing that contents me more then to know that your lordship is weall. I can not bot rander your lordship many thanks for your kyndnes to my lord, in gueing him your kynd adwyes at this tym. I will asour your lordship ther is no frind hi hes in the world that he will follow thir adwyes so much as hi will doe your lordships. I know hi will do mor at this tym for your disyer then all the frinds hi hade in the world could moue him to befor, for your lordships soun Collanele Mungumrie. All my regrat is that I was so far short of my kyndnes to him as his desert did merite. I may say your lordship hapi of such ane galant soune as hi is. I am confident he is ane confort to your lordship, and an honer to all that belongs him. I am hiering they are to ching the

whole offesers in the armie. I hope your lordship will not iet your soun and others frinds be wronged. I will truble your lordship no mor, bot wishes your lordship all hapines, and remane,

Your lordships truly affictnat nice and seruant,

Denoter, 3 of June.

Let this present my seruis to your lordship's noble lady.
For my noblle lord, the Earll of Eglintoune.

Jeane Ross, wife of Sir Robert Innes of that Ilk, to Margaret Lady Ross, her mother, 4th June 1640.

114. Madam — I receaued three of your ladyships letters and thos pepers which your ladyship send me, the 21 of Mey. I cannott express how much good they did me one the one partte, and how sorrie they make me one the other; for since it hes pleesed God to remowe me fare from your ladyship, ther is no earthlie thing can giue me more contentmentt then to heer from your ladyship, and to kno that your ladyship is weell: bot it greeues me much to heer that your ladyship, and many good peopell that is in thos pertts your ladyship is in, is in such danger daylie of the enimies; bot my greatest comfortt is, I am confident God will haue a ker of His awne cause, and of all thos that stands to itt, and trusts in Him, ewen for His awne glorries sek, howbeitt we deserue fare otherweyis. I haue noe tym to wrytt to your ladyship of thos things that ar doing heer, in respeck this beerers wey coming surprysed me; bot the Laird, who knos these things better nor I, hes promised to wrytt of them to your ladyship. I can wrytt nothing to your ladyship concerning my self att this tyme bot that I am reasonabill weel, God be thanked! and wisheth often to be with your ladyship: but since I cannott haue that happines, I must still beg that your ladyship will not forgett me, bot latt me kno particullarlie what is doing in the Lords cause, and how your ladyship is in your health; for thes two ar the things I desyre most to heer of and shall wish best, as becoms your ladyships most affectionatt douhter and serwantt,

Innes, the 4 June 1640. JEANE ROSS.

The Laird hes his seruis remembered to your ladyship, bot cannott wrytt at this tyme. Littell Robin is weell, God be thanked! and wald remember his serwis to your ladyship if he cowld speek. If it plees God, I intend to spen him within a month.

Your ladyship shall kno that this beerer is sentt from the genttrie of Murray to kno what is doing, and to returne als soone as he cane: wherfor I earnestlie intreatt your ladyship to wrytt to me particullarlie with him; for I kno not whan your ladyship will gett such ane occetione.

To the rightt honnorable lady and my most lowing mother, my Ledy Ross.

My nobill lord, and loving brother,

having this good occasioune of our Nephew, could not committ to remember all our hairteist best love, and best service unto zour lo: and zour whole chilldreine, — praying god to blisse zou with all contentmenting happines: leist zour freinds micht haive missing of zou, in thir eiwill dayes; being all our best pairte to be moist thankefull for zour kyndenes, and caire hadd of thairtie at this tyme; itt being no small trouble, besyds what may be the hayzarde of zour lo: suffering for us: this bearer can schaw zour lo: whatt hes occurred heirin with this whyle better then I can possible expresse by wrytting: the summ of all thair carreiadge as zitt, being still, as I ever conceaved, that both the — Englische parliament, and we wold gett all our will, and that by his only — meanes, who hes ever brotched all the course of this haille cairreiadge from the begirning; being one, whom cheifely nayther zour lo: nor any of us — rreides ever expect any graice or favoure of; we doe not expect zour lo: — heirebeing before the 14 of Jan.r: againte whitch tyme, we will be moist glaide to awaitte upon zou; and with our best wisches till then will — ever, rest. — —

Seatoune 16 of decb.r:
1640:

Zour lo: moist loving brother,
and reddie servaunt —
Wintoun

for my very honorable lord,
and loving brother. —

The earle of Eglintoune: —

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 16th December 1640.

115. My noble lord and loving brother — Having this good occasione of our nepheu, could not ommitt to remember all our hairteliest love and best service unto zour lordship and zour whole chilldreine; praying God to blisse zou with all conteinnouing happines, leist zour freinds micht haive missing of zou in thir eivle dayes; beyng all our best pairte to be most thankefull for zour kyndenes and caire hadd of thaime at this tyme, itt beyng no small trouble, besyds what may be the hayzarde of zour lordships suffering for us. This bearer can schau zour lordship whatt hes occurred heire all this whyle better then I can possible exprese by wrytting. The summ of all thair caireiadge as zitt beyng still, as I ever concaived, that both the Englische parliament and we wold gett all our will; and that by his only meanes who hes ever brotched all the course of this haille cairreiadge from the beginning; beyng one whom cheifely nayther zour lordship nor any of us neides ever expect any graice or favoure of. We doe not expect zour lordship heire beyng befor the 14 of Januar againe, whitch tyme we will be most glaide to awaitte upon zou, and with our best wisscches till then, will ever rest zour lordships most loving brother and reddie servaunt,

Seatoun, 16 of December 1640. WINTOUN.

For my very honorable lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune.

Hew Montgomery to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 17th December 1641.

116. My right honorable lord — My most humble dewtie and service being remembred to yowr lordship: I thocht befor now to have wrytin to yowr lordship; bot seldome falls it out that anie goes from heir to Scotland, nether is ther so muche as on considerable gentilman that comes ather to contribut his advyce, or to ease my Lord of Airds of the smallest part of that infinit burthen and cair whiche lyethe upon him at this tyme, except Craybuye, a young gentlman, and William Shaw, quho is M^r. Georg his brother in law; and they have mor then eneuche to doe withe the charg of ther two companies whiche they hav in the regiment. As for us who ar uther officers wnder his lordship, yowr lordship knowethe we can be but small helpe in that whiche consernethe the countrie. His lordship was pleaset to keep up his Lewtenant Collonels place for me after he received yowr lordships letter, for whiche amongste the rest of yowr lordships singular favours, I stand humblie bonde to your lordship; but he had placet the shiref of Gallowayes sone his Major befor we cam; but to satisfie yowr lordship according [to] yowr lordships letter, he appoyntet Captain Logane his oldest Captain and Quartermaster. The strenthe of the rebels can not be known, nether doe they nor can they know ther owne strenthe; for all of them that can winne runes to them, and we know that they ar hudg numbers of men; for the wholl paele is out, who have a number of good armes quhiche they had gott from the Lords at Dublin, and now refuse to restore them; for ther masters excuse themselves, and say that ther tennants ar gon out in rebellione withe them. Dubline is verie hard bestead; for all the Brittishe and uthers that ar protes-

tans, have send ther wyves, bairnes and goods away. The rebells interceptet a good daile of armes and uther ammunitione that was comming from Dublin (as we heir) for insetting of Tredathe; and increas daylie in strenthe, and goes on in ther former crewelties withe all sorts of persones, young and old; and except speidie assistanc be sent from Scotland, be all outward appearance they will find but few of ther cuntrie men to welcome them, and verie evile landing heir; for we ar few and verie naket for want of armes to withstand them. My Lord of Airds his strenthe at Cummer will be 4 hundrethe foot, withe sythes, cornforks, stafs and few pykes, and about ane hundrethe and threttie muskets, wherof ane hundrethe cam yesterday to ws from Dublin. My lord hathe lykwys 60 horsmen armed as they may be. Sir James lyethe at Downpatrick withe ane old cumpanie of foot, ane other of horse, his owne regiment, and his troupe is about our strenthe, and so armet: he hes a matter of 60 horsmen of my Lord Clandebuoys, and Sir Arthur Tyringhame lyethe at Lisnegarvie withe a matter of eicht hundrethe men, wherof ar three old troupes of horsmen. This is our whol strenthe, and our fortificationes suche as Kilwinning and Irwing. The rebells burne and kill everie uther night within a myl two or three wnto ws, nether can we helpe it; for what they doe is in the night, and if we send out a partie, they have centinels on all the hills, and will not stand but reteir to the woods. We ar informet they ar divyding themselves in three; Sir Philome Oneil in two; wherof on half ar appoyntet for Lisnegarvie, and the uther for ws, and Sir Conne M^{c}Ginnies and M^{k}Cairten for Downe: yet it wer but a small matter, if we had fyv thousand of such men and armes as wer at Newcastle, to marche towards them and give battel to threttie thousand in the open feilds; for they ar a confuset multitud: but what resistance we ar able to mak, yowr lordship may judge be the former part of this letter. We heir Langshawes brother is killett, but we ar not suir. M^{r}. Georg his house, and what was ther is all burnt. So praying the Lord, whose aid we must onlie relye upon, to assist yowr lordship and us, I rest, and shall whil I leive remaine

Yowr lordships humble and obedient servant,

Cummer, the 17 of December 1641. HEW MONTGOMERY.

I must humblie intreat yowr lordship to putt in a word for the Captaines meines quhat rests to me as yet, quhen yowr lordship finds occasione fitt; for notwithstanding of the owtward appearances of our distructione befor your assistance cum, yet I am verie houpfull, by the grace of God, to be yowr lordships humble servant quhen ther stormes ar over.

To the right honorable and my verie noble lord, my Lord the Erle of Eglington. Delyver thes.

Hugh, second Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Airdes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 31st December 1641.

117. Right honourable and my very good lord — If I haue not written to your lordship soe often as in duety I am bound, impute it not to any slaknes or carelesnes in me, whoe might alwise aknowledge

myself more bound to your lordships favour nor to all the world beside, His Majestie being excepted. My lord, the trueth is we ar keept exceeding busy with the rebells, whoe burne and kill within a myle and a half to this place; insoemuch as from the Newry to this, ther is not a Scotts or Inglishe dweller; this being thirty four myles; nor from Downepatrik to Killilieagh, nor from thence hither. At Lisnegarry ther is a garisone of seaven or eight hundred men, and some two troupes of horse: at Belfast ther is a garisone of a matter of three or four hundred men: at Carrigfergus ther is likwise a troupe of horse and some sex or seaven hundred foote: at Mosryne I heer ther is gathered together a matter of one thousand men. Heer I ly with a matter of eight companys of foote and three troupes of horse. At Killileagh ther is the Lord Claneboyes, whoe to speake truely, is extreame weake, onely that he hes a stronge house. Upon Wensday last Major Barclay, Captain Inglis and Mr. Elliott went abroade with ellevin or twelve score of men, as the report comes to me, wherof ther wes seaven score musquetiers and the rest pykemen, some fyve or sex myles from Killileagh. They mett with a party of the rebells, whose custome is to fall one with a great shoutt or cry, wherupone the most parte of the soldiers that wer with Barclay and Inglis fled before ever the rebells charged them; soe as these two or three gentlemen, with the most parte of all the men, together with ther armes, wer losed. Captain Alexander Hamiltone wes come to the Newtone the day before vpone some occasiones, soe as now I beleeve my Lord Claneboys hes not above ane hundred men with him. That night I sent out my Lewtenant Collonell and Major Crawfurd, with a party of 300 foote and 80 horses, whoe marched all night, and in the dawning came to the Leigure wher the rebells ly that ar on this syde of the countrey, whoe we did not thinke to haue bene soe stronge as indeed they wer. But, praised be God! they returned home yester night with the losse onely of twoe or three foote soldiers, and four or fyve wounded, whoe I hope will not be the worse. They brought with them a prey from the rebells of a matter of twelve or thirten score of cowes; and had the cutting off of above fyfty of the rebells, whoe wer vpwards of 1000 men. Major Blare being heer accidentally went out vpone the party with them, he will acquent your lordship with the maner of the service. The rogues raised ther cry, but I thank God it wrought not vpone our men. My brother Sir James lyes at Downepatrik, with a matter of sex or seaven companys of his owne, and a troupe of horse; he hes ther likwise an old foote company and a troupe of horse; and soe my lord this is the strength of these two countys for matter of soldiours. The people that are fled out of the countyes of Ardmagh, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Managhan, and these of this county itself, from the Newry all the way to this place. ar soe burdensome that in trueth we much fear that ther will be scarsety. My lord, the intelligeince that we had from the neighboring countyes of Wlster is cutt off by Sir Phelemy O Neall; soe as I can give your lordship no good accompt what the estate of the Brittish is towards Colraine and Londonderry. By sea we haue receaved intelligence from Dubline that all the Lords of the Pale ar in armes, and that the papistes all over the kingdome are also vp; that Tredath, which is within 20 myles of Dubline, is besieged, wher the Lord Moore comands some four or fyve troupes of horse, and Sir Harry Touchburne, a very braue gentlemen, a regiment of foote. The passage

to them by sea being blocked vp; the Lord Moores house of Mellefant taken by the rebells with the loss of some men one each syde; sex hundred men that wer sent from Dubline to Tredath wer cutt off by the way. It is reported that they robbe, burne, and kill neer to Dubline. It is likwise said that ther ar 10,000 Englishe landed at a place in Monster, called Yoghill; that 20,000 li. of moneys is likwise sent over; and that the Londoners haue contributed 10,000 li. to the maintenance of the ware. By advertisement from my brother Sir James, I understand that Sir Cone Magenis, Turlogh O Neall, Sir Phelemys brother, and M°Carten ar joyned together, haveing at least 2500 horse and foote ready to enter into Lecall. The rest of all the strength of the countrey heer are likwise ready to fall downe vpone these parts; soe as we cannot giue assistance one to another. Notwithstanding that I hade severall tymes ayded Lisnegarvy, they refussed to goe out with me against these rebells, though for the present they ar pretty and stronge; soe as all of ws do severally ly vpone our guards expecting the setting on of the rebells. In a word, my lord, our present conditione is as hard as can be well imagined; and the harder that we want armes and ammunitione. By your lordships favor I haue had the supply of some gentlemen that I most needs comend to be proper men and good soldiers, which makes me the more grewed that we should want such provisiones as might enable ws to performe that service which might be expected from such comanders; for supply wherof, if it please God to send it in tyme, wnder whome I doe rely vpon your lordship; for which ther is no security that your lordship shall be pleased to draw vp and send vnto me; but I will signe whatsoever comes vnto me. I must supply my brother with a parte of it; for which I will take his security. My lord, all the supply of armes I haue had from the begyneing hes come vnto me out of Scotland, by the meanes of a privat freind of myne, whoe is well knowen to your lordship; from the Lords Justices and State heer I haue onely had a matter of 100 musquetts; wherof I haue sent a parte to my brother from His Maiesties store at Carrigfergus. I haue bene refuissed of a supply of amunitione; they wrott unto me that the store house wes ill provyded, and that they hoped I might be supplied from Scotland. I know your lordship now expects to be informed what provisiones is to be had heer for the intertayneing of the forces that shall come from that kingdome: my lord, all I can say to that is, that ther is yet some reasonable store of cornes and other provisione in these corners that the rebells hawe not yet marched over; but if the army be long acomeing, the shorter the provisiones will be every day. The more ground the rebells gaine vpon ws the shorter our store must be; and if we shall be cutt aff before the supplyes come, the less safety will be for ther landing. And soe, my lord, craving pardon for this my tedious letter, praying God to bliss your lordship and all yours, and to protect ws, I remayne, your lordships affectionat cowsen and humble servant,

MONTGOMERIE.

Mont-Alexander, the last of December 1641.

It is certain that these gentlemen ar cutt aff to my Lord Claneboys, and 100 musquets lost with other armes; wherwith the rebells fought the next day against the party I sent out.

Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 10th January 1642.

118. Right Honorable — Vpon the 4th of this instant I wret to your lordship by the merchend packett ane answer to your lordships which yow sent me by Mr. Barclay, and one other to that same effect with James Merser; and I schew that it was vnpossible to send those things your lordship writt for, and to haue them sent against the 13th of this instant; and I desyred your lordships resolution: but because I can haue the womens bands reddy to send with the merchand packet the 11th of this instant (for before that tyme they could not be made), and I houpe they shalbe at home the 16th, at Edinburgh; therefore I haue resolved to send them, for though they come 3 or 4 dayes after the marriage, yet they wilbe welcome to hir ladyship; for they are verie curious, and of the newest sort of lace and makeing: and as for other things wherof ther is no such heast, I houpe to send them by Mr. Simson, my Lord of Levens servand, as your diamond, houds and masks for the ladies, silk stokins, garters, roses, gluffs and fans, and such lyke toyes, which the ladies can not want; and therefor your lordship may expect them with this bearer, Mr. Simson, who as he says houpes to be readdy the midst of this weeke, or els by Mr. Matland, who is to part on Weddinsday, the 12th of this instant; for he stayes 2 days longer, to see what event those broyls will haue betwix the King and the House of Commons, which are come to a hy bissiness. I schew your lordship by my last, that the King sent his Attorney Generall to the Lords house in Parliament, and accused 6 persons of hy treason — one lord and 5 gentlemen of the Howse of Commons. The lords found no ground at that instant to imprison them; for the King (as I haue understood) was the partie persewer, and the confiscations of these mens goods falling to him, [he] could not be a partie persewer; yet the parties accused stayed in Parliament 2 days after, till it pleased his Majestie vpon the 3rd day to come to the House of Commons, accompanied with the Prince Electour, my Lord Marquis, my Lords of Roxborough and Lainrick, with about 4 or 500 of officers and others of his Majesties servands. None came in to the house but the King and the Prince Electour; and there the King lookt about, and could see none of the accused, and sayd, where is Mr. Pim and Mr. Hollis? The Speaker answered, he had nether eares to heare, nor a mouth to speak, but when he wes commanded by this honorable howse: the King sayd he would haue these men if they were aboue ground, and so returned to Whythall. It is firmlie spoken if any of them had bin in the house at that present, (as they went out a quarter of ane houer before), the King would haue apprehended them, and the howse wold not haue lettin them goe, and so the greatest bloodshed might haue bin that was ever heard tell of in a parliament. Immediately the howse went to a consultation what should be done: at last, having consulted with the Lords, both howses of parliament did adjorn till the 11th of this instant; and in the mean tyme apointed committies to sit in the cittie, haveng power to considder and to vote upon poynts conduceing to the establischeng of the peace of the kingdome, and preservation of the liberties of parliament. His Majestie, heareing that the cittie sayd they would venter there lyues and esteats for the menteaneng of the liberties

of parliament, and great discontent being generally amongst them, so that the most part of their schopes were schut vp, and a new addition to the trayned bands of 12,000, with a captain generall being resolved vpon, and no traffique in the cittie, but armes and pouder, and 1200 horses to be raysed; I say, his Majestie wes counselled to go down to the cittie, 5th day, and particularlie to the common counsell thereoff, howpeing that good wordes wald pacifie them, and thus to gaine them to his syd; but was whollie frustrat of his expectations, and came home that night verie discontented, as we could imagin by his cariage, and by the satisfaction the Common Counsell gaue him. First, he told them that he wes a trew protestant, and wold defend that relligion and leue it to his posteritie; and as for these Rebels of Irland, I haue a paper in my hand to declare my displesour to them, and wes resolued by their good assistance to giue them as tymely a secourse as could be; and as for papists, he would haue a care that they should be suppress; and as he wes reddy to do that, so wold he also take order with schismaticts and such like persons; as for the parliament, he loued parliaments, and wold mentean the rights of them. The people cryed out, priveledges of parliament 3 tymes. His Majestie desyred them, let one speake, and so he retired to ane inner chamber a whyle with the Mayre and the Recorder and the 2 Schirves, and coming out again, one mayd a speech tucheng the liberties of parliament, suppressing of papists and disarming of them, secourseng of Irland, which were the cheef causes that treding wes decayed, to the impovriseng of the cittie and countrie; desyreng and prayeng his Majestie would joyn with his parliament for a wholesom remedy against all these things. That day his Majestie dynd with the Schreef Herit; and as he went to his coach the people cryed liberties of parliament; breach of parliament others cryed; and so went from his denner to the Towre. I forgot one thing; the King desyred that they would assist him to punisch delinquents, and not to harber them: they besocht his Majestie that these worthies (as I heard so they cald them) might haue a just parliamentarie tryell: the King promised they sould haue a fair and a legall tryell. All this tyme of discontent, his Majestie had a number of officers and others wayteng on his person; so that all thae roomes at Whythall were full of them, and somtymes there wes a dyet prepared for them at courte; and a company of the Trayned Bands of Westminster daylie and nightlie guarding Whythall, with a great coarte of guard for 300 persons. That day the King went to London, some women tooke the Mayre by the cheane, and abused him, and cald him a papist, and brok his cheane and 10 links puld from it, as I am informed. The 6th day there wes a petition presented to his Majestie at Whythall, in name of the Mayre, Aldermen, and the whole cittie, accompanied with 6 Aldermen and 12 Common Counsell men; the King answerd he wold send them their answer afterward, they might now returne. The 7th day the King put out a proclamation against these 5 accused, demanding none to harber them vnder paine of punischment, and all Justices of Peace and Constables, etc., to apprehend them where ever they could be found. This day at night ane alarme came to the cittie, so that in 2 howers tyme there were aboue 30,000 men in armes; and so since they keep strong gards, companies at every porte, and others

marching continowally throw the cittie and towards the bounds of there Liberties. The 8th day the Lord Mandivile and the other 5 gentlemen accused for hy treason were receiued in the grand committee of the Howses att Grossers Hall; and they say that they will come to the parliament at Westmidster on Tuysday, but with a good guard of the cittie, who protest will dy and liue with the parliament. The 10th day a Declaration came out of his Majestie, to assur the people he wes desyrous to maintean peace, and some satisfaction concerning the ceremonies of the church; but litle to the satisfaction (as I heare) of people. All these particulars can be better considered by the printed papers, which I houpe Mr. Matland and Mr. Symson will carie with them. This day the guard is commanded from Whythall, and the King and Queen after denner are going towards Hamptencourte; and so we perceiue that the citties resolution and preparation has sweyed the state of bissnes at this tyme. There were thousands of saylers and watermen that offered there service to the Grand Committee in the cittie, and that they wold guard the water; let them doe the land bissiness. These matters goeing this way against our good Kings intentions: alace! he has had but bad counsell apearentlie; so that now it seems he can not stay with contentment in Whythall: but what the parliament will say, and what course they will take, now that the King is retired from parliament, I can not telle. I haue no neus from abroad worthie of writting; but, indeed, we heare so much at home that it makes us astonisched. God has his owne worke to worke. The Lord bliss his Majestie, preserve relligion, and help poore Irland, which hes even amongst ws many enemies that wold be glad to see the rebals prevayle; but I houpe now the parliament will try out all such wiked instruments, and remead all things; so that the King may be a glorious King, sewyeng the scepter off defence to relligion and justice. I will now kisse your lordships hands, and wisch you and all yours as well as I wold wisch my owne soule; and to this treuth I will set my hand, who am eternally, my lord, your lordships most affectionat and faithfull servant,

London, the 10th of Januar 1642. JOHAN SETON.

If I get any more newes before this letter goe, I will put them in a post scriptum.

My wyfe presents her humble service to your lordship, and wisches much joy to my Lord and my Lady Easter; so as I doe.

To the right honorable my very noble worthie good lord and singular patron, my lord the Earl of Eglinton, att Eglinton, or Edinburgh at Henry Setons howse besyd the Wayhowse.

Elizabeth Ker, sister of Robert, first Earl of Roxburgh, to Margaret Scott, Lady Ross, afterwards second Countess of Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 28th July [c. 1630].

119. My most worthe deir nies — This lang syllens off myn mecht parhaps extrack from a mor scherp sensourer a harder constrocktion then zour auen goudnes thretnes me woth: its treu

somtym seknes, wther tyms grefis, woth deuersate off partorbations in thes sad tym, ouersets mee so, and thee onsartente hou my sone com off thes quarell he had for zour cousseng and myn, that I am almost euen heu his mother; as it may weill apeir by the letell pens I heue taken to tell zou what I thenk off zour pert to my pour man thatt hed the sone slen by thos schemles wemen and ther asotiets: zour wark to hem is lyk zour self,—fer and gust in all zour ways as it preses it self; it syllenses me, sef only in weching I mecht conuers woth many so inclynit. Thes ar now to inquyr hou my lord zour son beters; som says sloly; wech I beseik zou tak well what coms from the hands aff the Almechte. Intreuth I loue hem for hemself; heis lyk to heue a fer frank condation as hes father, quho I hard neuer man spek off bot well. I heir zourself is in gret destemper sens I saue zou; as I heue sed, what God sends sould not be repynit att; so aucht we to do whatt belangs onto zou and hem both: be not acsesare to zour auen euell. The Lord sosten zou and send helth to hem! Iff our arntine wor ans perted, I wald remoue from thes (and ples God); zet salbe sorre iff I see zou not befor; the tym off our metteng being so insarten agen. Beleue me, I estem my self moch obleget tou my nobell Mistres; nou tuys heth sche wretten for my coming to stay woth her. I well not fell to wet upon her att som goud ocation; bot I hop in Jesus not to be bordensom tou any; zet her ber words pets a tty wpon me. In a trobell itt wmers me moch to bee thocht upon. Forget not my espek this zeir (as the last); and zet God knauith iff I sall leue to heue ons agen well wechit clothis and goud folk to fyll them, as I thenk I spak off a plen moch and a penon for zou as I wos at zour hous; sall it be cambrek or tefenne, tell me, that I may by your exampell; send bak what off zours I bocht heir with itt. This lyis attending a berer, iff any theng acor to my knolegh zou sall heue it.

Thers not only tuo weks bot one egh almost expyret sens ther premesses wos wrotten; the descours may sem onkou its so auld; zet being intendet ons for zou I wald not relenquech my ferst well. Thers notheng interuenit sens for me to relett, bot the destemper off my auen bode; wherin I fend a wonderfoll alteretion. I obskurit als moch as I may; zet wald I bee content to spek woth zou, and most do it att lesor befor I go wost (if God uell alou me the strenth to mack that woyagh). I wald wech it wor heir, bot my deute to my lord zour sone obleisses me to bed hem feruell, being neuer hopfoll we meitt in thes lyf agen. Thenk ze wpon thes, and lat it be zour auen thocht, sens zet its only myn. I wett wpon my bern Daued hes heircoming, quho I lang to see; wtheruays I wech to acompeneit thes berer, or rether a delyuerit thes my self. I most at last tell zour gerdner heth nether kepit to me, nor hes the uther to hem. I rest zours, els not,

Elizabeth Ker

The xxviii off Jully.

For my worthele honoret neis, my Ledy Ross.

The same to the same, 26th November [c. 1641].

120. My deirest worthe nies — I had zours thes Fraday, woth a mark of zour dessyr I may be consaruet in helth; wech nou non wpon erth bot zou and my deing dochter thenks wpon: bot as our saying is, its happe to heue no enomeis and bot one frend; wherein ze mak me happe. Happely wos our ferst kyndnes begon, and to my comfort, conteneuit wpon zour pert; zet all this macks me not abus zou by that defeck off my gughment zou uald alegh in zour behalf. Beleue I am werre conphedent, uar the moltetad acquent woth what I kna (so rer is werteu in thes greuos tym), my quhespering sould geue a loud sond. Its treu a sempathe is indenayabel off zour worst and the wther ther best pert; thank ye most hech for non hes parfecktion by netur; so wee well leue thes desput in all tym to com, and gef leberte tou contempletion.

My couseng heth tuys sein me; ons in a sorpryset postur, and wald then a enterit in deskoars of thos oblegations ze spek off, wech I besocht a fetter tym for; ther efter wos fond a better oppertunate and we intertenit a fre conferins at mor lenth; my frendchep was emploret, the hestore heiroff belangs not tou papeir; zet is worthe goud consederation, wech I remet tou metteng, being yet in hop ze well mack the hest heir zou may. Thes torbolent tym and cauld sesson tou macks me hoples off my goud Ledy Annandel her coming; zet it may be God welbe pleset to send so many treu frends a happe metteng. I thank zou for my meir that that wys man zour acquentens (at leist I may say hee wos so to my deir lord your brother) hes resseuet, bot do ze thenk thes xx days past hee heth let me kno hou my bessenes is theruost, the pour soull pets a honder torments upon me, zet heis my auld ackquentens wech is a conqureng word onto me; hee wryts to me zesternecht to geue the Lede Ross thanks that heth sent hom my meir werre goud lyk and wothfoll to, hee woll warrent her: gugh ze upon the complement.

To send zou neuis from hens I dar nocht, sek inserten rumers gois; euere bode speks as thay wald heue it; and so do I: the great God send os peis and it bee His holy well! that is the spher my desyrs gois in. I heue not zet hard bot zour onkell my deir brother is well zet; it may be wtherways to, he being in a contenauell denger; hes wyf is brocht in to Londen sens sche retornet from Holland and the Keng hes Majestys cheldren sche had: onder a strang gerd ar thay keip. Ze may gugh what thes well produs to so pherfoll a speret as sche hes; and the hertbrek to that onnest hertet gretfoll man, your onkell; zet hou euer it be, God is goud and well breng ordour out of thes confusseon; off that I am werre conphedent: Hes by past merseis incourages me. How or wher my son is, I kna not; bot I heue one plegh; for all the sur merseis off God fels neuer: Hee woll ether lat me see them in sefte, or then geue me a contet hert onder sek a tryell; and I dessyr no mor. My dochter is and hes bein extrem seik, and now is tormentet woth the greuell; pour las, sche hes a pert off many greuos crosses! Lord mack her sensebell from quhat hand they com! A pouchfoll off ploums is deir off a penne in thes sesson; zet the Stet, as wee nou term our grandeis, maks wes off sek frut; ze woll thenk that werre streng. Sens that neu kyndnes all former frendchep is forgat; and so is the auld Mistres utterly mesregerdet, and that wpon a sondent, quho wos

so moch courtet wothin thes tuo month as her ze honour in that hech degre by allegen a sempathe woth; bot nou forsuth that is caseret, and one cannot tell hou its so fynly forgotten, sens the necht mettengs woth the Stet: now ffy upon fasset! and I hop in Jesus zet to leue and see it mak a foull hender end. Zour acauyte wos lyk your present extrem goud; I cannot gef you the thanks ze dessarf for that and moch mor: I heue apuntet a man off my auen to fech me som herreng from Glaskow; zet not the les thanks to zou for zou cer of me.

Nou I bessek zou mack the best ze may heir, for many many resons I orghit ther on spesealy. The Marques off Argyll to pot oblegen fafours wpon zour neuoy, hes med a proposetion hee may be med Jenorell off all our south borderis; thes is greuosly teken that I wos the zong lord leue thenking upon it in tym: beleue me the rumer only off it hes openit many mouth alredy, and insenset als manne mynds. Its aneuch I gef zou werneng; and wosses to see you woth all my hert, as I well geff ples to non for my resspek bot my couseng, to quhom I aucht omage. The Lord send you a sef and plesent journay, the sunner the better setesfyit welbe

Your treuly afecktionat cousenge and saruant,

The Caneget, the xxvi off Nouember. ELIZABETH KER.

To my nobell and most deir neis, my Ledy Ross att Halkheid; God send her sune and well, and sune hether.

The same to the same, 20th September [c. 1647.]

121. My most worthe nobel nies — This is my thred sens I had zours; bot all retornet; somtym ze wor abrod, and wther resons at wther tyms; zet ther wor notheng off emportans, seue to kna iff I mecht heue a wonter goun off tanne sergh, or bes, or mennom. This I expek ze woll do zet for me; I ded neuer loue morneng ze kna; the Lord seue os all from it if Hee well! I wald kna, if ze thenk it expedint, what zour aduys is consarning my hous in the Caneget, off the wech I heue hard notheng sens my woman deit, nether of its clening, nether hou its kepit sens. I heue a gret dessyr to draw homwert, iff it plesset our gratios God to satell the seknes; not that I intend to leue in that hous thes wonter, if God sper my lyf, bot sompert nerer my pour fortune, that I may knau what coms off the lettel mens is left me. Iff ze leue stell at Melueill, I thenk most off Wodhously, tho it bee wonderfoll rouenos: if ze go wost to Eglentoun, I wald heue som roums att Meluell. All thes thengs do I thenk wpon, bot can ressolf notheng wothout zour aduys; being conphedent iff ze fle my extremate no frend well support it. Treuly iff I soud say that I heue not gret content and moch honour off thes goud zong lede her goud compenny, it wor werre blemworthe. My reson I heue treuly geuen befor; and my foulech auld kyndnes and zours being so lang ago begon, I dessyr, iff God wald, wee mecht be som oftenar to luk wpon wther. Nou ze ar the staf off my egh; and netur requyrs a deutte off zou, moch mor the inteir loue that I heue treuly intertenit to zour honorabell dessent. Alltho my best sester had nocht bein zour mother, sche was a goud Ker (if euer ther wos any); so in memore off her nem do I ernestly intret a fafour of zow. Ther is one Ker off Greden gon in somtym ago to the

Rebelis; and is teken at thes tym, and in the keping off zour brother son, the Earl of Bocleuch. Hes deid I can not aprou, being sur hes ways wos dessalouit by all hes frends, and nocht wothout gust reson. My sut then is, ze woll wryt to my Lord zour neuoy that hee bee nocht so seuerly delt with as the brut gois heir. Ze ken my nem is deir to me, and I beleue so schall my dessyr be to zou; wtheruays thers non sal bed feruell to frendchep sunner upon erth then

Your inchengabell coussenge and saruant,

The xx day off September. E. K.

Iff ther can be som goud sergh for a goun to Marie,[1] I sall send monnes for all; zour messor for me and zour docter.

For the treuly nobel ledy, the Countes off Eglentoun, my euer honouret nies. Present.

The same to the same, 30th September 1647.

122. Deirist nobell nies — Ther notheng I langet for in thes lyf mor (sef helth) then to a sein zou, or at leist to a hard af zour welbeing: O well ze bot remember the lenth of tym sens I saue yow! I confes my self that foull heth pett my holl stor in one shep; and knos well I schall not repent it so lang as it pleisis the most mechte God to len os lyf: I heue my cloth all from thes berer, bot heth geuen hem no monne to ze com; besyds I expek my botter by zour meins; so ze most be so goud not to werre off my trobell for the schort tym that I beleue be allouit me to leue; hoping stell in Jesus ze sall heue no los, bot of a frend when Hee thenks tyme. I heue zour mantell rich dresset for zow; and dois remen for euer your most obleget cousenge and saruant,

The xxxth of September M.VI.C.XLVIJ. Elizabeth Ker.

I heue now som mor peils then I had; call for what I heue can sarf yow in, if ze thenk me zour frend.

For the werre nobell ledy the Countess off Egleintoun, my treuly honoret nies.

The same to the same [c. 1647].

123. Deirest nies — Ales it wos greues to me to pert with zou as I ded; albeit the inhappe passach had not interuenit that most onluket for, whilk wos my fallt: ze welbe so goud to wern me off it as a treu frend sould. I most tell zow I saue the goud speret gyd zow with a gret deill off meik prudens; the Lord mak yow thankfoll! Wosis me for ther greif manne ways! albeit it wald appeir thay speik as som wor pertte, as God knauis I am, bot zet upon my auen syd; ar all the Lendsays leuing so neir my schadow as my deir neuoy wos to my hert? no; lat me be destrostet, as it may hapen, I am resoluet to deill treuly and neturalle with out end. Ales can I bar the dochter off hem and her both that pet so manne oblegations upon me, when in kyndnes sche coms to luk

[1] In another letter, a part of which only is preserved, the writer mentions 'my bern Marie.'

wpon me? treule as I congektor it sould not be. It may be I err in my openeon in thes as my weknes many ways dois in moch mor: housoever, schelter me in zour fafour wher I ernestly desyr to leue, els no vher. Wpon thes werratie I rest, and sall always remein treuly zours: Forget not the Lord Cardros, for zou and me. E. K.

For the Counttes off Egleintoune — my euer honoret nies.

The same to the same, 9th March [c. 1648].

124. Deir nies — Wothout serremonne I wryt frelle to creue zour opuneon consarneng my jouell the Lord Cardros left in the hand off Streton: the man heth sent to me requyring hee may heue my aprobation to despon wpon it, heueing a fet ocation offerit wherby hee may heue hes monne with aduantagh for it; and if I woll nocht zeild thereto, that I well redem it my self; wech I can not do be geuing hem monneis at thes tym, heuing my ingaghment standing zet insateisfyit to Leuingston, as I hop somtym I heue tauld zou hou ongratiosly I am weset by hem: so I expek zour aduys, wher wpon I moch depend; and if the man and I can agre upon surte, I intend to geue anny goud cationar thay well tak the jeuell to I heue mor lying monnes to releue it. This is all to I can heir zou aduys wherewpon to conclud. A thousant tyms ferueill! my seruies being presenttet to your nobell lord, I remen for euer your inalterabell cousenge and saruant,

The ixth of March. Elizabeth Ker.

If ze thenk goud, I employ Medop; for I thenk non can heue los gets the jeuell in warendeis.

To the Counttes off Egleintoun, my treule honorett lede.

Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 13th January 1642.

125. My very noble good lord — I have heirwith returned the letters wreatin to your lordship from Ireland; and render your lordship most hearty thankes for your intelligence, which I have this day particularlie imparted to the Lords of Privie Counsell. Since your lordship parted from hence, we receaved letters from our Commissioners at Court, schoweing that according to their instructions they had given in some propositions concerning the Irische affaires to the King and Parliament of England; but, becaus of the great distractions there, had receaved no answer. We have wreatin backe to them to represent the distressed estate and condition of our freinds and countriemen in Ireland (which ought to be regrated by all good Cristians); and with all instancie to urge ane answer. The letter wreatin to me by Capitane Eleyes is not yet come to my hands. So wischeing your lordship all happynes, I rest your lordships affectionat freind and servand,

Edenburgh, 13 Januarii 1642. Loudoun.

I doubt not but your lordship hes heard that the Lord Mandevile, Mr. Pym, Mr. Hollis, Mr. Hamden, Mr. Stroud and Sir Arthur Hasselrig ar accused by the Kings Actorney of high

treason; and how his Majestie went to the Hous of Commons to requyre they micht be committed to prison; which the Hous refused, and craved that the particulars of their charge should be specially condescended upon; and what high contest is amongst them.

To my very noble good lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. These.

Mr. James Scott of Bonnytoun (?) to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 2nd March 1642.

126. Ryght noble my verie honorable good lord—My humble deutie with service remembrit: Since my last direct to zour lordship, the Comitte vpoun the incendiaries hes lost no tyme zit. The last houre, being the tuelft hour at night, vpoun the last day of Februar, thay haif pronuncit the Erle of Traquair guilty of four poyntis of treassoun, efter trew tryell therof: the first poynt anent his Declaratioun that he maid in presens of the King and Counsell of Ingland, at the tua severall tymes, anes at Lundoun, and the last tyme at Zork, thairby inanimating His Majestie and the kingdome of Ingland to wadge war aganis his trew loyall subjectis; the second poynt is, that he threatned the memberis of Parliament in tyme of Parliament, being than Comissioner for his Majestie; the thrid poynt, that he lykwyes, being Comissioner in Assemblie, threatned the memberis thairof; the fourt poynt, that his lordship haifing subscrvit warrandis quharwpoun actis of Parliament and Assemblie proceidit, he withdrew the samyn. And lykwyes the said Comitte, efter tryell, haif fund Montrois to haif divertit himself from the Covenant, and that notwithstanding thairof he had vsit divisive motiones contrair to his oath; and thairfoir they referrit the punishment to be inflictit vpoun the saids Erles of Montrois and Traquair for the saidis crymes to His Majestie and the nixt ensewing Parliament. They haif done nothing as zit concerning the rest of thos that wer convenied befoir thame, being interruptit be tyme; bot hes reservit thair farder tryell as the King and nixt Parliament sall think fit and expedient. Montrois, efter the sentence was pronuncit aganis him, protestit that notwithstanding of the said sentence, he might be reput als trew ane patriot and loyall subiect, with all honores and dignities to his persoun and estait, as he was haldin befoir his citatioun; and appealled to His Majestie and Parliament, and protestit for remeid of law aganis the said Comitte. The haill memberis of the said Comitte maid faith not [to] divulge quhat was doone; and thirfoir I beleive that thair haill proceidour as zit is not fullie reveillit. The toun of Edinburgh hes gottin thair gift of the rentis of the Deanrie of Edinburgh past in Exchecker; wherein it is subioyned (at the desyr of the Erle of Glencairne,) that the said gift sould na wayes preiudge zour lordship, nor his lordship, of zour infeftments and takis; bot sould be reservit as accordis of the law. Not troubling zour lordship with any farder for the present, I rest zour lordship's servitour to be comandit,

Edin^{r}. the 2 of March 1642. M. J. Scott.

To the ryght noble my verie honorabill good lord, the Erle of Eglingtoun, Lord Montgomerie and Kilwyning. Theis.

The Privy Council to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 24th June 1642.

127. Our verie honorabill good lord — There hes beene a processe brought in before ws be the minister of Eglishame aganis a nomber of your lordships tenents, his parishoners; quherin wee have thought fit to tak that course quhilk is most expedient for setling of peace betuix the pastor and his people. Suche of the defenders as were present, vpon thair judiciall confession of the lybel and acknawledgment of the fact, were comitted to the Tolbuith of Edinburgh; and, at the ministers awne entreattie, wee gave order for thair releasment that same night. Those that were absent are ordand to be denunced; bot wee have continowed the execution of the sentence for 15 dayes, that, betuix and that day, they may give the lyke satisfaction to thair minister thair. And since it is thought fitt, that for the more solid agreeing of thir parties, that a visitation be made be the Presbytery of that kirk, wee will entreat your lordship to be present at the said visitation, and to concurre be all faire meanes in setling the differences that be there betueene the pastor and his people in suche a freindlie way that there be no suche occasione of contestes betuix them heirafter. Wherrin as we expect your lordships best endevore, so yow will oblidge

Your lordships assured freinds,

Edin^{r} 24 Junii 1642. LOUDOUN, Can^{ll}rius. ANGUS. LEUEN. ARGYLL.

To our verie hon^{ble} good lord, the Earle of Eglinton.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Henry Seaton, 5th July 1642.

128. Loveing freind—Thir few lynnes ar to show yow that I have taken occasion to send this beirar to desire yow to buy ane sadle for careing of tuo lytle coffers; and to bring west with him also ane vther lytle coffer of the gedge whilk I have givin him. Ze sall pey for thame, and I sall pey yow be your compt againe; for I must over to Ireland presentlie eftir this beirar returnes (God willing!); becaus I hear my sone James is also fallen seik. Zee sall cast in into the trunk one sumptor cloath quhilk wes left with yow, and my new blak lether buittes; and send west four hammes in the coffer, with my tuo blak gairded swords. Remember me to all freinds. I pray God we may meett all merrily agane. I rest your loveing freind,

Eglinton, 5 July 1642. EGLINTOUN.

For our gude freind, Henry Seaton, merchand burges of Edinburght, at the Weyhous.

The same to the same, 23rd October 1642.

129. Loveing freind — This few lynnes ar to desire yow to send west with this beirar my sones Sir Alexanders dochter, whome I have directed to have a care of hir; and zee sall give hir mother 6 dollors, and I sall repay the samen at meetting. I have directed the beirar to tak shoirt jurneyis with the bairne, and that sche may be keeped warme. Let not hir mother come with

hir; for I will not have hir to come on nae meanes. Caus buy ane pund of razines to give hir by the way. Also caus buy ane pair of rucht mittenes, and caus mak ane pair of pleyding hois to keep hir warme, with ane pair of schoes gif neid beis; and I sall pey all. And direct the beirar away with diligence. Soi I rest your loveing freind,

Ponoun, 23 of October 1642. EGLINTOUN.

To my loveing freind, Henry Seatoun, merchand burges of Edinburght.

[Account annexed to the above letter].

Item, the 31 off October, geiffin to the bairns mother, 6 dollors	16 lib. 4 s.
Item, for ane pond of resings	00 lib. 6 s.
Item, for ane payr off rucht metting and twa to the bairne .	00 lib. 6 s.
Summa is	16 lib. 16 s.

Jeane Ross, Lady Innes, to Margaret Lady Ross, her mother, 27th October 1642.

130. Madam — I receaued your ladyships letter which was written the 23 of September, and thos things your ladyship sentt me, and the nots of all thos things your ladyship sentt me in the bark. I haue recaued all conform to the nots, accep the three firkins of sop and twa bout cloths, and the cannall water, and the lairds hatt. I most ewer acknoledg your ladyship lowe and cer to me, and in every thing that concerns me to be mor then euer I can deserue: all that I can do is euer to stryff be the greac of God to be ane lowing and obedientt dochtier and serwant to your ladyship so long as I liue. And seeing your ladyship desyrs to kno what we stand in need of mor, I shall trewlie show your ladyship what we should haue, and what we haue gotten from the laird, and then your ladyship will kno, better then I can wrytt, what we will need; becauss your ladyship knos better what belongs to ane hous then I do. Your ladyship knos wee should haue gotten from the laird forttie chathers of wittall and twa thowsand mark of money; if we had gon to Ross as we war onc resolued to do, I think we wald a gotten the fortti chather that is ther, if the laird could haue gotten the ten chather reliued that I shew your ladyship of; bot now sieing we goe to Spynie we cannott gett that, itt lyeth so far from ws; and all that the laird can giu ws heer is twantie chather of wittall about Elgin, which is weri ewill peyd, and twa thousand marks: and for plenising, I wrett a weri confused letter to your ladyship, which I am ashemd of, bot itt was in hest, and I wrett the not of all thos things that the laird gius ws, and closed in itt; I hop itt is comd to your ladyships hands or now. Treulie if the laird could haue spared mor to ws he wald haue done itt, for he is trewli kynd to ws both; bot seing he could not do itt wnhurtting himself, his sonn nor I will newar put him to itt; bot be the greac of God, we will stryff to liue as honestli as we can till he be eabell to giu us mor. Now I will show your ladyship what I wald fain haue had: Your ladyship knos the Erll of Murray hes giuen ws the houss of Speyni for a tyme, and he coms sundrie tyms to this countrey, for the most pertt of his estett lys heer; and I kno he will do

ws the honnor to com to ws, and I wald fain haue a chamer or twa weell drest for his coming, becaus he is weri curious in thos things; and trewli for the presentt we hau not on stand of good curtteins, nor any thing of that sortt; for the cloth which Sandi Bran broughtt me I cannott gett my bouttouns brouthered on itt this yeer. I haue als much sad green serg of our aune making as will be ane bed, bot I cannott get less and fringes to itt heer; but I haue written to Anna to buy als many less and fringes to itt, half silk and half worsett, as will seru itt; and I shall send her money soon efter Mertimes. This is the treuth of our statt, which I haue written to your ladyship. Concerning our houss holding, and my ceriag towards our serwantts, or any other thing your ladyship will command me to doe, be the greac of God I shall stryff to obey our ladyship as becoms your ladyships most affectionitt doughter and serwantt as long as I liue,

Innes, the 27 of October 1642. JEANE ROSS.

Your ladyship shall kno that the childrin is weell, God be thankett! and for that which your ladyship desyrs to kno if I be with chyld, I am not weri sur, bot I suspeck my self, for I am not weri weell, as this ill written letter mey testifie; bot if I be, as I think, itt will be att such a tym that if itt pleess God your ladyship be weell and willing, your ladyship mey com to the beering of itt; bot I shall shou your ladyship mor particullarlie of itt with the nixt occetion than I can do now.

To the right honnorabell ledy and my most lowing mother, my Ledy Ross. Thes.

James Earl of Montrose to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 12th November 1642.

131. My noble lord — You will be pleased beleeue ane small desire from your hands sould be ane forcible commandment, altho I hade no interest of my owen to carry me to it, as in this I must acknowledge; but withall, I must entreat your lordship consider whither in the tearmes I stand with the estate of tymes, my appearing rather might not wrong yow both, and interest my selfe, then proue in any wise vsefull to either: So knowing fewe wordes sufficient for your lordships vnderstanding, I will only desire you beleeve that not only in this, wherin I confesse my selfe alike engadged, but in quhat els to good purpose you were alone concerned, none should be further at your devotione then your lordships most affectionat and humble servant,

Kinkairden, 12 November 1642. MONTROSE.

For my most noble lord, the Erle of Eglington.

The same to the same, 24th November 1642.

132. My noble lord — I should haue most heartilie, in whole besides in a part, obeyed your lordships desire, as carrying with it alongst the strength of ane commandement in what were faisable for your humble servant. As I shewe your lordship in my former that it was both harde for me and vnfitting for your interest I should have attended you there my selfe; so this your

lordship is now pleased to desire being much more infaisable, I must againe and againe humblie entreat your lordships pardon, seeing all my writes that could serue for any such vse are in the north, and would require to be hade thither ane farre larger tyme then is allowed. So hopping your lordship will take this for no pretext, but ane reall impossibilitie, I am,

Your lordships most faithfull friend and servant,

Kinkairden, 24 November 1642. MONTROSE.

Being informed by the Laird of Keire of your lordships noble carriage gainst all the indirect wayes hes been taken to make you desert your freindes and servants, I must make you the humble acknowledgment and protest for your lordships beleife of my thankefulnes for ane so noble favore.

For my noble lord, the Erle of Eglintoun.

Hugh, second Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Airdes, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 6th December 1642.

133. Right honorable and my verie good lord — I am extreame sorrie of the occassioune I have to trouble your lordship, yet the assurance I have of your lordships nobill favowris makes me bolde to acquent yow with everie thing concearnis moe; becaus from your lordship onlie I expect soverane remeidies. I doubt not but the Gennerall, (to whome I am infinitlie obliged,) according to the wngrate informacion of my cousin, Bally Crabry, of whome I wold not have expected any such thing, hath informed your lordship of the bussynes which may be hath induced yow to conceive some harsh opinion of me. Wherefore, I intreate your lordship not onlie to perswade your self of the contrarie, but also the Gennerall; and intreate him not to proceide in that bussynes concerning the trowpes of horse, according to my cousins relatioun; for I shall either make it appeare (to my greif for my cousines miscariage) that he hath extreamlie wronged me, and neglected his owne duety, else let not my name be inscrybed amongst these of Cavileiris. So earnestlie desyreing the continuance of your lordships favouris, I rest, my lord, your lordships most humble servant and cousin,

Newtoun, the 6th of December 1642. MONTGOMERIE.

I intreat your lordship that this letter to my vncle may be gotten sent to him with all possible dilligence, and the best saftie can be.

For the right honorable and his verie good lord, my lord the Earle of Eglintowne. These present.

John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 15th December 1642.

134. My noble lord — It hath pleaseit the Almightie to call my deir bedfellow from this valley of teares to hir home (as hir selff in hir last wordis called it): There remaines now the last duetie to be done to that pairt of hir left with ws, quhilk I intend to performe vpoun the fyft of Januar next. This I intreat may be honnored with your lordships presence heir, at Cassillis, that day,

at ten in the morning, and frome this to our burriall place at Mayboill, quhich shalbe takin as a mark of your lordships affectioun to your lordship's humble servant,

Cassillis, the 15 December 1642.

Answer by the Earl of Eglintoun, from a copy annexed to the above letter.

135. My lord — I am sorrowfull from my heart for your lordships great losse and heavie visitatioun, and regraits much that I cannot have the libertie from my Lord Chancellour to come and doe that last duty and respect I am tyed to. And I will earnestly entreat your lordship not to tak this for an excuse, for I have bene verie instant for it; bot your lordships appointed day is the verie day for meetting of the Committee of the Conservatours of Peace; and further, one partie, the Earl of Glencairne, is so instant, that he will grant no delay in this action. Your lordship may persuade yourself it is ane very grit greif to me to be absent from you. I will earnestly entreat your lordship to tak all things Cristianly, as I am confident your lordship will doe. I pray God to comfort you with His wysdome, and resolutioun to be content with that which comes from His hand; for none sall wish it more then I that shall still remaine,

Your lordships most louing cousin to serve you.

Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 19th December 1642.

136. My lord — I have reseued your lordships, and your lordship nided not mak ony excous to me for your silence. I haue had mor testemonie of your lordships respeck then euer was diserued by me; bot my indeuors shall be always to diserue the nem of

Your lordships most obedant dother and humbl saruent,

Killwining, the 19 of Dicember 1642.

Sandie presents his humble sarues to your lordship.

For my honorable lord, the Earle of Eglentune. Thes.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Mr. Allan Cunyngham, 26th December 1642.

137. Loveing freind — I ressaved your letters, and have considdered the same where zee think it

wer good that ordor wer givin that the bairnes may be diet ether in the college or in Mr. Dauid Dicksones. As for Mr. Dauid, I beleive he will ressaue none, howbeit at the desire of the Marques of Argile he ressaved his barnes; bot for my part I think it most expedient they boord in the college; for therby they will the more ardently be kept at ther study, and they will have the lesse occasioun to vaig. My Lord Abircorne, at his west coming, I doubt not wilbe carefull of this, and will speak with the principall of the college theranent; for questionles he will doe what is incumbent to soe neer a freind for these barnes. As for bookis, what bookis the barnes stands in need of, have your recourse to James Sanders in my name, who will give yow sick as they need, to whome this sal be ane warrand. I beleive James Hammiltoun will tak ordor at his coming both with the one and other; bot howevir, my Lord Abircorne and I sall be both willing and reddy to doe for these bairnes to our power. I have spoken my Lord Abircorne anent that bairne who is sickely: he hes promist to speak Doctour Arnot about him, that sick things may be hade as is necessarie for him by advyse of the doctour; bot I think Doctor Mayne and vthers thair, who may know the constitution of the bairne best, may peforme these things best for the weell of the bairne. Entreatting yow to remember me to tham both, I rest your loveing freind,

Edr. 26 December 1642. EGLINTOUN.

I could not writ sooner, being taken wp with so many affares, and is daily so taken wp that scarce can I have so much time.

To our loveing freind, Mr. Allane Cwnyngham, tutour to Sir Phrederik Hammiltoun his bairnes, at Glasgow.

Francis, second Earl of Buccleuche, to Margaret Lady Ross, 8th February 1643.

138. Madame — I thought to comed and seene your ladyship befor I had gone out of this toune; bott I hope your ladyship will be pleased to pardon me, because all this foornune I haue been taken up with my Lord Lintoune his comming to my chamber hear, and syndrie others; bott, God willing, I shall see your ladyship once on Friday or Setterday, and receaue your ladyships commandiments before I goe south. And ass for the business your ladyship spoke to me long agoe concerning Johne Scott, your naturall brother, I haue nott gotten tyme to aduyse with some of my curators and syke ther consents thereto; bott I shall striue at my incomming befor I goe south, to give your ladyship contentment of such a resonable desyre, and when occasione offers I shall striue to show my selfe your ladyships most affectionatt sonne and humble seruant,

From my chamber, the 8 of February 1643.

Buccleuche

I tooke the occasione of the bearer hearof being with me.

For my very honourablle noble lady, my Lady Ross. These.

Robert, ninth Lord Ross, to Margaret Lady Ross, his mother, 2nd May [illegible]

139. Right honorable and loving mother — Altho my subiect nou of writing be bot small for al ur greatest affaires are thes of the schole and of skoll busines; yet could I not bot testifie my [illegible] thir few lynes, and reioyce of your ladyships health. I sie by on of Mr Jameis that your ladyship is myndid for the ueast; I shall think it long till I hear from your ladyship. bot [illegible] your ladyships self, whilk I fear be not in haist if all be treu is tolde me: bot who hes [illegible] that? It is a wonder to me uhat people hes for them to troubell themselfs uith what [illegible] ther way. I knou they may have ther aun ends in it, and am persuaded of it, as I am [illegible] ship can haue none bot that of my weall and hapines. Let the worelde then speak what [illegible] your ladyship shal be my lowing mother, and I your ladyships obediant and louing sone.

St. Andros, May ii, 1643. Robert Ros

To this purpos I had some discours to Mr James on Sonday last, as we war going about the fields, whilk made him laugh; and so may it perchanche your ladyship, if it pleas him.

For my uery honorable and lowing mother, my Lady Ross.

Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, 6th November 1643.

140 My lord — I humblie acknouledge your lordships fauor in letting me here at so greitt lenth from your lordship. As yet I haue not subscriuide the Couenant, by resson I haue sum scrupuls; bot quhen your lordship returns I thinke your lordship may do much to solue me of them. My sister Lady Anna hes bine verie ill on Fridday last; scho tuke ane brash and womitted much bloode: sins scho hes bene better; bot yester night she womitted sum also. Mr. Heu Montgomerie is with hire, quho taikes ane grett caire of hire, and houps she is not in any danger, bot thinkes it is ane waine broken. My wife sent for me on Saterday last, for sho hes euer sins had pains; so I expect schortly, God uilling, she will be broght to bede. We intreat your lordship to favor ws in letting us knou of your lordships dayet in bringing my lady home. So seesing to truble your lordship further, I am your lordships most humble obedient sone and seruitur,

Kilwinning, 6 November 1643.

For my most honorable lord,
the Earell of Eglintone.

Montgomerie

George, third Earl of Wintoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his brother, 26th February 1644.

141. My lord and loving brother — Sence zour lordships pairting from this, itt hes beine so extreamely urdged be my lord zour soonne to all his freindes heire, that nou seyng zour lordship hes beine pleased to take ane full course for finall settling the provisiounes of zour childreine, itt micht please zour lordship lykways to assent that he micht be now lykways setled in what he micht iustly (by zour lordships former favoure) acclaimed deu to him longe agoe; beying only sence steyed by moutuall bandes, whitch war only draune up then, for the mor assured effectuatting of zour lordships will and pleasoure; and beyng now satisfeyed, sutch of zour lordships freindes, who ar most interest in the respect to zour housse and zour self, as myself for one, (in regairde of the to lyke many accidents may fall out to be verry preiudicialle, if not tymely prevented, in this daingerouse tyme) most neides hairtiely intreatte that at our desyre (who I beleive ar nou the cheife menn in this keingdoome) zour lordship may and will most saifely trust all that may any wey concerne zourself, or the estaitte of zour noble and ancient familie; whitch, as we pray God itt may longe conteinnou in zour aune personne, so most we be now earnest sutters, that itt micht please zou to assent and geive wey, that presently ane signatoure may be passed and expede in zour soonne his favoure, enaibling him to breuke as aire te zou, whatsumever is and shall be funde dew to be conteinnoued in his personne, with the estaitte of zour housse; with this proviso always, that itt shall ayther be contained in the bodie of his enfeftement, if the signatoure may beare itt, or be gotne so passed; whitch failling by sum other sort of obleidgement as may be funde most secure, that he shall doe nothing may ayther wronge or burdeine the estaitte of zour lordships housse, by taking on soumes of monney, wadsetting or disposing of any landes or other rents whatsumever, without zour lordships advysse and consent, and sutch other honnorable freindes, during zour tyme, as zour lordship shall be wealle pleased with, be first hadd and obteined thairto; whitch beyng richtly concaived and wealle doone, putts zour lordship and us all out of all sutch neideles feares as thir daingerouse tymes micht produce. Leaving to be farther urdging or troublesum, will expect zour lordship's resolutioune by zour answer, with the first; remitting all could be farther saide for inducing zour lordship thairto, to the Lord Yester, whom, with zour self and all other good freindes thair, we pray God to saife and blisse from all dainger; resting as ever zour lordships most loving brother and humble servaunt,

Seatoun, 26 Februar 1644. WINTOUN.

Upon recaitte of zour lordships, as I am most glaide of zour good quarters amongst our friendes thair, so doe I most hairtiely recommende the protectioune of thaime and thair estaitte to zour lordships caire; praying zow to esteime all those peiple no les kyndely to zow then myself and what is myne heire wissches zour lordship may putt aff this storme happiely, without farther dainger or hairme may fall to zow or any of zours thair.

For my noble lord and loving brother, the Earle of Eglintoune.

Ferdinando, second Lord Fairfax of Cameron, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, 21st February 1644.

142. My lord — I receiued your letter by Maior Barkeley; wherein I perceiue your lordship hath recalled those troops that lay about Helperby and Thornton Briggs. Truly, my lord, I was much pressed with peticons; which occasioned my writing to your lordship. I hope now the country will haue no cause to complaine of double assessments which they paid to this army and those troops which were amongest them. I heare some of my souldiers did disorderly carry themselues against those troops, your lordship sent for the horse at Bolton. I assure your lordship I knew nothing of it before this complaint made by your officer; and haue now sent to Colonel Lassells, of whose regement these men were, to enquire out their names, and to send them hither for their punishment; for I shall be verie sory any of my souldiers should giue discontent to your lordship, or any of your nacion. This is all I haue for the present but to remaine, my lord,

Your lordships most humble servant,

Yorke, the xxist of February 1644.

For the right honorable, the Lord Mountgomerie.

The same to the same, 2nd March 1644.

143. My lord — It hath pleased God to suffer the enemy to giue my forces a verie great defeat at Pontefract. About three thousand horse and one thousand draggoons, vnder the command of Sir Marmaduke Langdale and Sir Thomas Blackwell, came soe verie fast vpp, as that I could not get my forces from the seuerall places they were to come from to resist them. Yesterday, about three of the clocke, some of my horse faced the enemys vann, but were forced to retreat vnto the foot, who carryed themselves verie brauely; but yet were not able long to continue; and both the horse and foot retreated with too much disorder, that I am affraid wee haue lost verie many foot. I intreat your lordship to draw vpp your regement, and giue notice to others which are neare you to draws theirs, with all convenient speed towards Burrow Briggs, whether I shall rally, and advise with your lordship what may best be done for anoying the enemy, and securing this city and the passage to Scarbrough. I desire to heare from your lordship by this post, that I may know the better what further order to giue. I am, my lord,

Your lordships most humble servant,

Yorke, the 2nd of March 1644. FER. FAIRFAX.

For the right honorable, the Lord Mountgomerie.

The same to the same, 3rd March 1644.

144. My lord — I shall intreat your lordship would be pleased to advance with your regement and

those others with you to Wetherby, where myne shall be ready to attend your lordship; and as informacion shall come from the countrie of the enemies motion, to draw to such places where the most service may be done. My lord, I am heartily sorie that the distemper of my body by reason of my late iourneyes, will not suffer me to wait on your lordship myself at this time. I desire your lordship with all convenient speed to draw on; because I desire to stopp the enemies proceedings any further in spoiling this poor country. I remaine, my lord,

Your lordships most humble servant,

Yorke, the third of March 1644. FER. FAIRFAX.

For the right honorable the Lord Mountgomerie at Burrow Briggs or Topliffe.
Haste, haste, post haste, 3 March, one of the clock. FER. FAIRFAX.

Sir William Ross of Muiriston to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, 9th March 1644.

145. Madame — My humble service rememberit to your ladyship: I receavit your ladyships letter, shawing me that my lord your sones service wes stayit. Madame, so soone as I am abill, I will doe your ladyship and your sone any service that in me lyes. I am verie glad that our army [is] ovir Tyne; God goe alonges them! As for newes heir, whilke your ladyship desyrs to know, we ar daylie and hourelie frichtit; first, with my Lord Sinckleris men, quhilke ar neir ane thowsand, who landit at Irwin; and wer not the gentrie in the countrie conveinit, they had done great hurt. Sicklyke, shortlie thairafter cam my Lord Lowdianes regiment, who landit at Grinoke. The Bailles of Paislay being advertised at xi houris at nicht be his letter, they came ovir to me at xii at nicht, and we advyist what wes the best, for bothe the regiments thocht to haue lyne at Paislay; and we, efter advysment, thocht it best to withstand them if it were possible; and I comandit your ladyships men to be in readines, as they did verie willinglie. The Dukes men lykewyse, and the rest of the gentrie and commons of the paroche, the towne of Paislay, and they were aboue seven hundrethe men and neir tua hundreth horse; and befor we wist, Lowdianes regiment wes at the granteris, and my Lord Sinckler wes in Paisley attending his regiment. So the towne and countrie vshit, and mett them hard by the ports, and wold not lett them enter. Glencairne wes thair, who was no vnfreind. Then my Lord Sinckler desyrit that the towne and countrie sould lay downe armes, and lett them pass in; and the space of tua houres it baid a hard contest; alwayes we wold not. Bot this wes the agriement, that the first three companies sould passe throw the towne to Renfrew, Govane and Pollocke, as they did; the vther tua companies were quartered in the towne of Paislay; so that nether your people nor anie vthers hes gottin any wrong be the sojers. My Lord Sincklers regiment is to Glasgow, whair we heir the towne will not receave them. We heir thair is landit at Grinocke three hundrethe of Laweris regiment; and we feir the haill rest of their over comeing, quhilk affrichts the countrie verie

muche; bothe in staying thair labour and spoyleing thair houses. . . . So to your ladyships advertisment, quhilk I looke for shortlie, I rest and sall ever remaine,

Your ladyships most loving vncle,

Paislay, this ix Merche 1644. Sir William Ros.

Madame, excuse me that I cannot subscryve my self be reasoun of the goott, bot my wyfe for me, with her service, my awne and my sones rememberit to your ladyship.

For my verie honorable good ladie, my Ladie Countess of Eglintoune. These.

The same to the same, 10th March 1646.

146. Right honourable madame — The plage of pestilence haveing beine in the hous of William Cumynge, youre ladyships tenent at Halket Mylne; in tyme of quhilk seiknes some of his familie leivit in his barn, wherin is his haille aites and beire; and now, at the mercie and pleasour of God, the towne of Pasleye beinge sore of feire of that seiknes, so far as can be vnderstood; it hes bein regraitit, both in their towne counsell and session, thatt all the houses and goodis about thaime being cleinzeit, that barne, and the cornes therin, sould remayne vnclenzeit. And I, haveing mett with thame to speik of ane commodious waye for doeing of it, it wes thocht vpon that the best way wes to cause separat tua peple quha have beine seik, and to cause thame burne it aff the strae, after the form of Ireland, and than to cleanse the barne; and the performance of this recommendit to me, as being heir for your ladyship, as the like is recommendit to others in the same kynd about, in the Erle Abercornes land and Ladie Stainles landis; wheirfor, being vnwillinge to medle in the mater without your ladyships advise, I thocht good to advertise your ladyship heirof. The toune and session both recommends (for escheweinge farder danger) that gif this be not speadielie done, the haille cornes should be brunt, bot advise rather for preserving the creatures, the other wer done. So expectinge your ladyships resolution herein, I rest your ladyships most loveing vncle and servant,

Paslay, 10 March 1646. Sir Williame Rose.

For the right honorable and verie noble ladie, the Countess of Eglintoun. Theis.

Francis, second Earl of Buccleuche, to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, 10th April 1644.

147. Madame — Hauing this occasione, bein so bound in dewty to your ladyship, I wold nott pass without when oportunity offers to giue the testimony of my reall respect to yow, which whilst I breath sall euer be performed most affectionatly; for when I haue the happines to heir of your good health, it puts noe little joy in my breast, which sall euer burne with a fire unquencheable of treu zeall and loue uncheangeable towards your ladyshipe, whose unrequetable fauours shall neuer bee forgotten by him who is glad to be esteemed,

Your ladyships affectionatt sonne and humble seruant,

Buccleuche.

My lord is in good health for just now: I was with him yesterday.

After my letters to you wee marched; and now are all encamped some one or two myles from Durhame. Their ar all the news I haue.

From our Ligure, Apraile the 10, 1644; the name wherof I forgett in haist.

For my very honourable and most noble lady, the Countes of Eglentoune.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home, his servitor at Eagleshame, 24th June [c. 1644.]

148. William: I have been usinge all deligence to gett money, and all that I can gett at this tyme is ten pounds strling, quhilk you shall receaue from this bearer. And I dowbt not but John Huchon hes payed you for the wheat, accordinge to the condition; for he promised me to advance you the wheat silver, and he hes gotten nyn bols of it alreadie, and the rest of it thrasinge and makinge readie for him, and shall have as soone it shall be readie. As for the letters of inhibition ye required, ye shall receaue them hear inclosed; and cause gett new letters for using inhibition for the teainds. I dowbt not but ye gat my letter that I writ to my ladie. I most intreat you to caus gett twenti els of harden; and as for the maison, he neid not com in regard I have gotten another to doe my turne for he did not keip the apponted tyme and dyat to me. Let me hear from you. Wishinge all health and happines, I rest

Yor right loueinge master,

God knows the troubl I have been in to gett thir moneys. EGLINTOUN.

Egelinton, the 24 of June.

J. Somervell to Mr. James Scott of Bonyntoun, 1st May 1644.

149. Sir — Thir few lyns ar to schaw zow all the passagies that we haue had heir since zour sister sones comeing from the airmie. Wpoun the penult of March, the airmie marchit from the quarteris besyd Sunderland, and went to the Bruntfeild Murhoussis, and vpoun the morn, being the first of Apryll, the airmie marcheit from thair to Eisingtoun hill, and stayit thair till the eight of the said month; and from that we marcheit from that to Quarintoun Hillis, vpoun the south syd of Durhame, within a myle or tuo of the toun; and vpon the 10 day, at 12 o cloack at nicht, Major Ballintyne with sum commandit men went out and took 20 men and threttie hors, with pistollis and saiddillis; and on of the men was a capitane. And vpon the 11 day thair came sum keillis vp the water of Wear from Sunderland to fetch coillis, and the ennemie send out sum dragouneris and comandit musquitteires, and tuik the men that was gairding the keillis, and slew of them and cutted the keillis; and vpoun the 12 day, in the nicht, the Marquis of Newcastell with his airmie fled from Durhame; and we gat no intelligence till the 13 day att 3 acloak in the efternoon; and then the airmie marcheit efter them with all the haist thay micht; bot they had

ever geat a fair start, and we came to the Ferrie Hill that nicht; and vpon the 14 day, being Sunday, we marcheit verrie airlie befoir the soon rais, and the hors men followit in haist, and cam to Derntoun befoir 7 acloak in the morning, and sent out a pairtie of hors to persew thair reir. Our major commandit the pairtie; he with his pairtie tuik fourtie men and many horses, and slew many of thair straggillars, and gatt tuo thousand merkis worth of silver plait, and mikill cheis, pork and bread, and we stayit thair till nicht, and the haill airmie crosit the Teis water that nicht: and the morn we marchit to Northallertoun: and the morn, being the 16 day, we marchit fra that to Thormanbie, and we gat provision from the touns about, and fra that we marchit to Borrowbrigis: and the morn, being the 18 day, we marchit fra that to Wedderbie, and we mett with Sir Thomas Fairfax: and vpoun the 20 day we marcheit to Todgaster, and met with my Lord Fairfax his troupperis and dragouneres: and vpoun the 22 day we marcheit within two myllis of Zork: and my Lord Fairfax his foot came vp to the vther syd of the water foir against our ligar; and in the nicht the haill trouppes that the Marquis of Newcastell had in Zork, went out and fled: and our troupes, with my Lord Fairfax his troupes followed, and tuik 60 prisonars, and many horses; and thay war so hard chaisit that thay war forcit to tak the cullouris from the standaris and ryd away with and live the staf behind them, and thay ar to the King to Oxfuird: and we and Fairfax his forces ar lying about the citie of Zork, and thair haill foot is within, with 4 troupes of hors. Sir Marmeduik Longlie is fled, and gon to the King with the haill hors that was in the Kingis northern airmie, and is myndit to bring Prince Ruppert and the haill forces that thay can mak to rais the seidge at Zork. The souldieres that we tak off thairis sayes thay gatt a muchkin of beans, a unnce of butar, and a penny loaf evirrie ane of them per diem; and thair is ane ordinance that evirrie ane within the citie of Zork sall haue bot ane maill per diem: for the Marquis of Newcastell and Generall King hes causit search all the citie for provision, and takin all into the stoir hous, and gives out to the people that is within the citie efter the mainer foirsaid. God knowis quhat the event will be; bot the General Major of the horses wold haue the wallis of the citie stormit vpoun all quarteris, both be foot and hors, and the horsmen to quyt thair horses, and scall with ane pistoll and his sword; so that altho many be slain it may be bot small hurt to the haill airmie. No moir; bot, my seruice being rememberit, committing zow and all that doeth belong to zow to the prottectioun of Almightie God, I rest

Zour faithful servant at zour command,

From the Ligour at Midilthorp, foir against Zork, the 1 of Maii 1644. J. Somervell.

The cannon playes of thair fortis upon our souldioures, quhair evir thay can espy them, conteinwallie.

To the richt worthie and his much respectit maister, Maister James Scott of Bonyntoun. Theis.

Mr. David Dickson, Professor of Divinity, Glasgow, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 29th July 1644.

150. My richt noble lord — Hearing of your lordships home comming, I could not forbeare to

testifie my vnfained joy for your lordships honorable and valiant deportment in all this service of the good cause; and for the gracious meitting which Almichtie God hes given your lordship in this matter; so that vnto the house of Eglintoun no small accession, and luster, and splendour is addet in your lordships person; which sall not only beutifie your lordship so long as your lordship leaves, (which I sall pray may be long and happie,) butt also sall schyne vpon the posteritie, as a part of their glorie to have hade such a noble progenitour; and as a spurre in their syde to stirre them vp to follow your lordships futtsteps. As your lordship hes avowed the true religion, and hazardet all yow hade in the defence of the cause thairof; so hes your lyfe beine precious in the Lords eyes ofter then once sins the service began; wherby as God hes ingadged yow to go on in your familie, and all places wherein your lordship comes, to give honour to the preserver of your lordships lyfe; so hes He given yow incouragement to come frequentlie to himselfe in secreit; and to court himselfe, and luik for eternal salvation fra the Son of God, who hes an ey vpon all that opposes this His work for their evill, and ane ey vpon all that further the same for their good. This is from

Your lordships and the whole noble families servant,

Glasgow, the 29th of Julie 1644. David Dunbarr.

Ferdinando Lord Fairfax of Cameron to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, November 1644.

151. My lord—Your maior hath acquainted me that your lordships regement is ordered to be quartered about Northallerton and Thirsk; and withall desired a way may be thought vpon how this may be done with the most convenience to all parts; which is now soe cast in respect of the seige of Hemsley, that if that order be punctually pursued, it will be verie preiudicial, if not distructiue to that course wee are in for the reducing of that castle, which is now brought vnto that necessitie as it is verie neare rendering. I doubt not but out of that respect your lordship will spare to require contribucion of your troops out of those townes, alreadie nessarily assigned for the subsistance of the forces now about Hemsley; but rather take such townes as are next adioyning vnto them, as I shall study to approve myself, my lord,

Your lordships most affectionat freind and humble servant,

Yorke, the of November 1644. Fer. Fairfax.

For the right honorable my verie good lord, the Earle of Mount Gomerie.

Alexander, first Earl of Leven, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 14th January 1645.

152. My lord—I haue ben deilling with the Committee for the bairnes and oyes of Generall Ruthven, that quhat is dew to them be him may be payit to them furth of the reddiest of his meines, according to equitie and meining of the Act of Parliament. The bill given in anent

the premisses, and instructiounes thereof, being referrit be the Committee to be sein and revisit be Sir Williame Carmichell, he is content therewith; and is to make his report. And in respect I can not attend the bissines, I mak bold to intreit zour lordship to supplie my absence be taking of that bissines; and to sie it put fordward in so far as ressone and the law of the cwntrie will admit. Sir Francis Ruthven will give yow farder informatioun anent the bissines, and thairfor give him audience; and quhat zour lordship sall doe heirin to the weill of my pupillis sall be estemit as done to me, quho sall approve myself to be your lordships humble servant,

Edinburgh, 14 Januar 1645. LEUEN.

For my noble lord, the Erle of Eglintoun. These.

General David Leslie, afterwards Lord Newark, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie, 14th February 1645.

153. My lord — Tho your lordship hath formerly seene that Order which His Excellence was pleased to giue me, to be signified vnto the rest of the army; hauing this fitt opportunitie, I thought it expedient to renewe it againe, desiring your lordship would be pleased to shewe your officers, not only to strengthen your troopes, but also that they be weale mounted, weale armed and clothed, as they will be answerable, vnder penaltie of casheering to there disgrace. Giuen at Daston Hall, the 14th of February 1645. Yours,

For my noble lord and commorad,
my Lord Montgomry.

Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th April 1645.

154. Right honorable my verie good lord — I am perswaded that Ledowick Matland hes deliured your lordship these things I gave him to bring home to your lordship, to wit, the silk wastcoat and the bundle of lutstrings; since which time I never heard from your lordship. At this time I have sent home what since yow have desired me; to witt, three dusson off whyt glufs of the best sort, triple sowed, and a dusson of sweet gluffs, the which I have recommended to my Lady Morray, who hes promised they shalbe packt vp in hir ladyships own trunk, and faithfullie deliured if hir own goods come home safe, and that most be put the venter. As for your lordships turques ring, I have delivered it to my Lord of Lautherdel, to be geven to your lordship. I would also have geven the other things to his lordship; bot there trunks were gon to the schip befor ever I knew that my lord wes in goeing; but I then thought of the next best commoditie. The account of these things are as followeth —

I receaved from Mr. Robert Barclay 20 lib. sterlin for your Lordships vse —

Ther remained vnpayed of the sadle	0 lib.	10 sch.
Gevin for a silk waystcoat	2	10
For a bundle of lutstrings	1	04
For 3 pound of sleve silk	6	06
For 3 dusson of whyt glufs, triple sowed	2	11
For ane half dusson of sweet glufs	0	15
For ane half dusson of ane other sort	0	12
For ane turquois ring in a heart way	3	05
Summa of what is layd out	17	13
Rests in my hand	2	7

What your lordship will haue done with this two pounds seven schillings shal be disposed of as your lordship pleases. I have sent hier inclosed the discharges of these parties from whom I bought these commodities; as your lordship may see.

And now, my lord, I will let yow know the steat of our bisines as they stand at this present. What belongs to the warre: four dayes agoe Sir Thomas Fairfax was commanded to send some troupes to give relief to a place called Tantondean; ther went a committe to see the troupes march, wherof my Lord of Wariston wes one. Since which time we heare that Generall Gorin hes left that town onelie beseged with 3000 men, haveng withdrawen himself with 4000 to joyn to the King at Oxfoord, who hes bin in reddiness these ten dayes to part from thence, but had no strenth, and so durst not venter out. Eight dayes ago he sent 3 regiments of horse to give ane alarme to our quarteris; but our horse were so reddie that they gave the Kings horse the chase, tooke 400 of them, and some cheef officers prisoners, and as I heare there wes not anie officer with our horse at that time above a corporall. Some of the enemies horse fled vnto a garison called Blischinton, a garison of the enemies of 200 men, commanded by Collonel Windibank: they summoned the house; he capitulat with them; and the enemy got live to march away without armes, the officers excepted, who got there horse and armes with them. Three dayes after, our horse, vnder the comand of Collonel Cromwel, set vpon a quarter of the enemies horse neer to a garrison called Farinton, where there were 300 foote: 200 horse were there taken, and the house also, and the sogiors broght prisoners to this cittie. We houp that Tantondean shalbe relived, a place of great importance; it lyes in the midst of Somersytscheare, and is a stop to the Kings levies there, ether in men or money; and consequentlie so long as we keep that place, the west can be but verrie litle vsefull to him. Prince Rupert and Massi hes had a bout togither where Massi lay. It wes at Sir John Winters house, which he brunt when he could not keep it, being but a 1000 strong and the Prince 2000; yet he made his retreat to Glocester, and in the way he lost 120 men, a 150 horse run away from him, and the Prince and he were at hande blowes; but the Prince was armed at all peeces, who lost als manie of his men as Massi did, and tooke als manie prisoners, and as

we heare, my Lord of Lughberie, called Hestings, is ether killed or deadly hurt. Since that time Prince Rupert is about Warwik, sieckeng to get in to the assocated counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, which he may easelie doe, come bake again how he best can: I houp he shalbe prevented. If anie other news come befoir these be closed, I shall writ them in the end. The King of Denmark is still obstinat; he will in no wayes consent that the Tool in the Sound be diminisched; and therfor the Esteats of the Lowcountries are rayseng of 6000 sogiers in Holland for land service, and are to send 60 schips double manned to joyn with the Swadens: I think this will bring him to a conformitie. The Emperor is retorned to Bavaria, and in the town of Ausberg otherweys Augusta: the Emperatrice and the childrin are gon to Stirmark. The Swadens are masters of a great part of Austrea the lower, have also a passage over the Danub: this wes the last news from these places. The Frensch are makeng a strong armie for Flanderis under the Duck of Orleans. The two princes, Rupert and Maurice, are joind, and Gorin with them, neer Oxfoord: Sir Thomas Fairfax is commanded not to hazard a batle till the Scots armie draw neer.

My lord, M^r. Brisbin writs to me that he hes not received that note of Adam Blare for the 50 libs. resting me of that years pension I had order for two years and more ago; I pray cause deliver it him, that I may get my monie. He told me likweys that besyds the retention money they are to lay tax and loane money vpon us. Trulie, my lord, that were hard; for the Duck of Lenox is obliged by his contract to give my wyfe 4000 merks full yeerlie for hir mentenance, haveng quat as much which by contract of mariage wes dew to hir; and so whatever charges for the publick fals vpon my lords lands, his lordship should beare it, and no wayes hir anuitie which is but smal. I pray, my lord, help M^r. George in this as much as yow can. This is written to be sent by my Lord Lautherdeal. I will not venter to writ by the post, being a dangerous way; for all the letters that are intercepted are presentlie printed at Oxfoord. We both kis your lordships hands: as for myself, I shall ever studie to approve me, my lord, your lordships faithful and humble servant,

London, the 9th of April 1645. JOHAN SETON.

Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 26th August 1645.

155. My noble lord — Although I had not the happines to see your lordship before I came out of the west countrie, yet it is noe smale contentment to me that, in this time soe full of trouble, your lordship is there to incourage and be a leader to our freinds and countrie men. And because I heare that I suffer uerie much preiudice in opinion of our countrie men for my coming out of that place at this time; that the candor of my actions and sinceritie of my intentions may be clearly knowne to such as loue trueth, and are content to be satisfied with just reason, (for I doe not walew the censer of others,) I conceaue it fit to informe your lordship of the trew causes and reasons which moued me to come from home. After the adiourning of the Parliament at Perth, I pressed, with all instancie, that I might returne home to assist the putting of our countrie in a posture of defence of themselues, and opposing the enimie; bot my desire in

this was soe far expressed by the Earle of Craffourd and the Liftenant Generall (notwithstanding I had noe charge nor order from the Parliament to attend the armie), that they ansred, if I did not stay with the armie they would abandon it, and let the armie disband; soe that I could neuer get parted with the armie till the Rebells crossed Forth southward the day before that unhappie battell; at which time I left the armie on their march from Tillybodie Moore; and that I might preuent their going into the west, and haue safe passage thither, I crossed the water at the Queens Ferrie, went by Lithgow before I rested to Hamilton; where the next morning I found the Earle of Lainrick with the forces of Clidsdaill on the moore beside Bothuell Brig, wpon his march, as he said, either to Glasgow or to joyne with our armie; bot he regrated the want of abler officers, which moued me to leaue Collonell Harrie Barclay, who is a uerie honest and able man, with him. From thence I made all the haist I could to Loudoun, where I heard the randeuous of our shire was to be two dayes thereafter. The next morning I heard that the day I came home that lamentable rancounter was at Kilsyth betwixt our armie and the Rebells; wherevpon I toock occasion to vse all the hast I could for bringing our shire to a speedie randevous; and caused to put on beacons in the night, and ring the parish church bells. I did writt to the Earle of Lainrick to keepe together the forces of Clidsdaill; and to the Earle of Cassills to haist up the forces of Carrick. Lainrick writt back to me, that vpon the newes of the defeate of our armie, all the people of Clidsdaill disbanded after the battell; and that he could not keep them together. I did againe writt to him, most earnestly beseeching him to draw them speedily together; and that he would aduertise Glencarne to doe the like for Ranfrough, as I had aduertised Carrick, that we might all draw to one place of common randeuous; bot his answer was still to me, that it was impossible to draw or keep them together. On Sunday, when I was at sermon in the feilds, with such of the forces of Kyle as were come to a randeuous with me, I reiceaued a letter from the Earle of Craffourd desiring me to meet with him, Lainrick and Bargenie, that day at Loudoun hill; where I went imeadiatlie after sermon, and stayed there neere the space of three houres; where none of them coming, I sent my desire to them in writting, that the whole forces and fensible persons betwixt sixtie and sixteene, within the shires of Air, Lainrick and Ranffrugh, might joyne at a common randeuous, both foot and horse, and stay together for defence of the countrie, and opposing the Rebells: or if they conceaued that all could not be keept together, that the whole horsemen and dragoones that could be mounted in these shires might speedily come together, and keep the feilds; and that I should giue present aduertisment to the Comitties of War and gentlemen of all the neighboring shires, to joyne with vs: to which I desired earnestly they would returne a present answer; and soe I did returne to the forces I left on the feild: bot before I came to them, Craffourd, Lainrick and Bargenie did ouer take me, and being late, desired we might goe to a house to resolue what was fit to be done. My opinion was, as formerlie, to draw the forces of these three neighboring shires, either all of them, or at least all the horsemen and dragoons that could be raised, to a randeuous and stay together; bot these noble

lords did show that it was impossible for them to keep the forces of Clidsdaill together; that all the forces they could raise there would not be 200, who was not content to march out of their owne shire, nor would they performe anie dewtie within it; that the forces of Ranfrough, vpon the surrender of Glasgow to the Rebells, were all disbanded: as also, Adam Blair came to me ffrom the Gentlemen of Cunigham, to show that all the forces of Cunigham (except 200) were disbanded, and that it was not in their power to keep them together; notwithstanding wherof I offered to stay with these of Kyle who were conueened with me. That the Earles of Craffourd and Lainrick said that soe smale forces could neither protect the countrie nor oppose the enimie who were uerie strong; and that the keeping of them together was the exposing of them to an apparent and certaine danger; and that their blood might justly be required at the hands of anie that should aduise them to take that course: and did affirme that the onlie best way now left to us was the spedie calling of our armies from England and Ireland; and that there could be noe soe great and acceptable seruice done to the State for saftie of the kingdome, as that I should repair with all convenient speed to our armie in England, and the Parliament there; and that the Earles of Glencarne and Cassills might speedily repair to our armie in Ireland; quhilk was objected by me, that the not hauing of some body in the feilds would discourage our freinds, and give advantage to the enimie: to which it was answered, that these forces that were there on foot was soe few, as they could neither defend our friends, nor offend our enimies; quhilk was further objected by the Laird of Sesnock and Prouest of Air, that the sending soe manie noblemen out of this part of the countrie left the shire destitute of anie man whom they might follow: to which it was answered by the afforesaid lords, that their going to the seuerall armies was of greater vse and better seruice to the kingdome; and that the good of the kingdome was to be preferred to anie shire; and that the bussines could admitt of noe delay. At the time of this debate the Earle of Cassills came, who made us to haue a quorum of the Comittie of Estaits; and the matter being put to the question, it was voted that my present going to England, and the Earle of Cassills going to Ireland, was most necessarie; and letters and instructions were presently written for that end: and this being the truth of that which passed in matter of fact, and I being destitute of the assistance of the next adiacent shires, and a great part of our owne shire, who refused to ioyne and stay at a randeuous, and hauing the call and warrant of the Comittie of Estaits requiring my speedie going to the armie in England to craue their aid to helpe their distressed and bleeding natiue countrie; I leaue it to the impartiall consideration of such as are judicius, whether I could warrantable, or with a safe conscience, refuse that imployment which was conceaued so necessarie for the saftie of the kingdome; the prosperitie whereof hath euer been soe much tendered by me, that I haue neuer shrinked to hasard my life and fortune for this cause and my countries seruice: and being conscious to my selfe that it is not my fault bot misfortune, whether through malice and envie of such as desire to snach at euerie occassion to forge uniust aspersions and misconster the best actions of those whom they enuie without cause, or that it doth proceed

from the ignorance of such as know not the true reasons which hath ocassioned my suddaine coming from that countrie at this time; and although it cannot bot be greueous to me that my name and reputation shouldbe thus blasted by the obloques of my enimies, and preiudged in the opinion of my freinds and countrimen, yet the conscience of the integritie of my actions, and sinceritie of my intentions to imploy my whole strengh and best endeauours in the way which may serue most for promoting the cause aud saftie of the kingdome, is a sufficient remedie and comfort to me; and I hope will in end proue, by Gods blessing and good prouidence, a sufficient confutation of all the calumnies and preiudice that malice, enuie, or ignorance can forge against me: nor shall, God willing, anie crosse or temptation of that kind discourage me a whit, or make me the more remisse in this cause and my countries seruice, which hath and shall euer be dearer to me then anie thing can concerne me in this life. Thus far for exoneration of my owne mind, and for true information to your lordship and to our freinds and countriemen, who I desire may haue a right understanding of my actions, I haue made bold to expresse by letter, hoping it will find such acceptance with your lordship as, amongst the manie reall proofs of your fauour and constant kindnes, shall oblidge

Your lordships most affectionate freind and humble seruant,

Berwick, the 26 of August 1645. LOUDOUN.

General David Leslie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 3rd October 1645.

156. My lord — I have receaved your lordships, and does thair vpon resigne my pouer in your lordships hands for placing of thes officers; being confident your lordship will doe all things for the guid of this cause. I did expect those troupes heir before that day which you have appoynted for their randevoues; and shall now desyre that after your randevous they march presentlie to St. Jonstoun, wher they shall receav farder ordours. I have sure intelligence that Montrose is still in the head of Athole; to whom the Laird of Drum is gone with thriescore horse. My Lord Gordon is in Murray with tua hundreth gentlemen. The Erle of Marshell is at Aberdein with Generall Major Midleton, and gives him all the assistance he can. The General Major hes sent from thence ane pairtie of 300 horse and 100 dragoones to Strabogie. This is all can be sayd for the present be him who is your lordships affectionat freind and humble servant,

Millhill, 3 of October 1645. DAVID LESLIE.

For the ryght honorable the Earle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 12th October 1645.

157. My lord — I have intelligence that Montrose moves southward, keiping the hills to Glasgow, intending to prorogat his Parliament there; for which cause I shall endevoir that our army shall still follow him in the low lands, as he moves in the hills; and wold intreat that your lordship may

have the new levyes in reddines, and putt the countrey in a posture of defense: assuring your lordship that if he move towards Glasgow, I shall do my best to be there als soon as he. Expecting to hear from your lordship, I rest your lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

Arbroth, this 12 of October 1645. DAVID LESLIE.

For the ryght honorable the Erle of Eglintoun.

Sir John Seton to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 7th October 1645.

158. Right honorable — The extrem desir I have to heare of your lordships helth (of which I have had no notice for a long time,) hes moved me to writ these few lyns to yow; wherin I need not be verie curious to report what fals out hier from time to time, for I know your commissioners will spare me that paines: housoever, I must acquaint your lordship that this people are verie little satesfied with our armie, who since they came up in these eastern quarters, have done them but litle service; and after Montroos wes defeat, and not so much need of them in Scotland, yet, though the Parliament desyred passionatlie they should retorn, have notwithstanding continued there course northward unto the Tyes, where now they are; and yet there desir is to have them return to besedge Neuwark, a den of theeves; for which doeing, if they consent to it, have voted 30,000 lib. to be sent to them, and to furnisch them with all other necessars when they come there. Indeed, I wish they could do somewhat to regain the affections of the people and their olde reputation; but I feare there be some cheef men amongst them (and so it is generallie repported,) that are more bent to advance there own passionat ends then the publicque well and this good cause we have in hand, and hes suffred so much for. Well, God will find them out and reward them in his own good time; amongst which, to my great regrate, the general worde goeth that my Lord Montgommerie is accoumpted one. I houpe it is not so; and that he will follow the footsteps of his euer honored father. Give me live to say this, my lord, for your lordships name is verie famous amongst us. Indeed, your sone Robert is caried with ane other sprit, as I heare; and so I houp God will bliss him the better. Your affliction and comon calamitie of that kingdome hes bin great; ther were maine prayers and teares sched for you hier, which God of His mercie hes bin pleased to heare, in delivering yow at this time from such eminent danger which wanted but a step of our total ruin, had not God put in His helping hand. He that hes begun the worke, I houp and trust in Him he wil finish it; but I feare yow are to mercifull a people in delaying to execut justice, that henceforth your enemies may stand in aw. If it be so, it is just with God that they remaine priks into your syds to destroy yow when yow shall least think vpon it, or when yow can not help it: consider of this, my lord, and doe as God puts it into your heart. As for that poore man, my zong cheef, I know he hes bin innocentlie put vpon it; yet he is not altogither faultles in consenteng to it; indeed his instigators ought to beare a part of his punishment. I wonder no les of Touch, my cussin; but he hes born the chastisment of his sin for it, and therefor hes receaved hes reward; but since Touch is yet alyve, let him plead for himselfe. I pray your

lordship to be a frend to the two poore widowes, who, I houp, had no hand into it. I heare now he is yet alyve. The effairs of this kingdome goe on verie succesfullie for the Parliament; for since the batle of Nesbie, things have prosperouslie fallen out to them: above 19 places, great and smal, taken; and now ther is great houpes of the takeng of Chester, the onlie place left where the Irisches can land. He is doeng what he can for the relief of it; but I houp he wilbe prevented. He hes done what he can in Walles, but the succes doth not answere his expectations; and therfore he is now marching towards Neuwark to try if he can joyn his forces, and ether make a diversion, by tryeng if he can fall in into the associated counties, or els to return with all the strenth he can to force the besegers att Chester: it is reported he hes about 2500 horse with him much ridden down. The counties are ryseng to prepare for there defence; and Major General Prins hes order to wayt upon His Majestie. Sir Thomas Fairfax joyned with Massi in the west, and are persweng Gorin, who is said to be 11,000 strong, and hes gotten 3000 curasses to arme so manie horsemen du cap en pied; but I imagin the Englisch horse are not strong anuf for that weght; and therfore I doubt not but some few hard marches will cause theme leve there curasses behind them. We heare he stryves to brek through with his horse to the King; which if he doe, he will offer his foote in sacrifice, and it may be not escape so well himselfe. Winchester, a strong cassel, is yesterday delivered over to the Parliament, and a good fat bishop, with a great deal of plunder, found into it. But, my lord, let us look to home bisnes. If ther be anie that retards the advancement of the comon cause, take such order with him, be he lord, be he gentilman, that others may feare to offend in the lik cace; but especiallie I pray, my lord, let the State purge the armie from such; for assuredlie there be Judases among ws; and discover all fals herted Christians and the trublers of our Israell: let none of them, my lord, have your countenance. Ther is no more I can remember worthie of writting, onely my bedfellow hes hir most humble service remembred to yowr lordship, and so do I, who shall ever remain, and that undoutedlie,

My lord, your lordships most humble and affectionat servand,

London, the 7th of October 1645. JOHAN SETON.

To the right honorable my noble worthie good lord and speciall patron,
my lord the Earle of Eglinton, Scotland.

Mr. James Mure to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, 18th December 1645.

159. Madame—We had exceidinglie longed to heir from yowr ladyship, and war feared of some news quhairof we sould not haue had content; bot blissed be God of yowr ladyships health and my lords. He hes bein a litill troubled with a cogh, whilk we labour by all means may be suppressed; and to that effect hes chainged his chalmer, as being a litill cold, to that of yowr ladyships sonnes, whair thair is a bed for everye on of theme, and the chalmer weall hung. I think they can not be long heir, thair ar such scarsitie of every thing that such extortion has not bein hard of, tak what cours the magistrats will, or say what the Stats pleis. Thair is very sloe pro-

gress heir of busines, and litill done to speak of sinc thair being their, as yowr ladyship will find by that of Clarckingtone, who, I think, will giue yowr ladyship best information, and hes promeised to me so to doe; whairfor I mynd not to trouble yowr ladyship. My lord yowr sonne keipes the most pairt of the dyats and cessions from the very first, and is very much respected and maid off be thame all, and speciallie be Crafoord, president: I pray God he be worthy of itt. His opinion and vote hes bein asked, but refused be him, as being a yowng man, and onlie thair to heir and learne. He hes no laik of quiknes; ane drame of soliditie war of great worth, whilk I hope may be acquyred with tyme, and so thair most be a litill patience. Yowr ladyship knoes that some fruits ar sooner ryp, and otheres longer a ryping. He goes now and then to wait upon my Lord Buckcleuch; they haue dyned, souped, and plaid together. He is something rude and to earnest in his play, as hes bein often told him; and that he is to much given to talk, whilk I wish might be helped; with other things that I might be fred of censure, as your ladyship speaks, as I sall be, I am confident, by all that hes sein and knoen my pairt of itt. Paul may preach, and Appollo water, butt God most give the blissing. I pray God itt may so faire with him! He is nott yett gone to colledge, butt sall the next weak, at least the on half of the day, that he may attend the Parliament the other half. It is a very good breiding, and may doe thame great goud if thei will think so of itt. I hope he sall come in acquentance with God. It will be good keiping him always in mynd off itt, and of his promise to your ladyship att Medoupe; and that all be done in treuth and sinceritie, and not for the fashions sake. Forgett not to exhort him to a settlett and wyss cariage, and to be mor spareing in speiking, and less familiar: all will be thoght bot babling els. He hes many yowng anes heir off a wonderfull cariage; himself can discerne off itt, butt is not so readye to imitatt as I wold haue him. Lett nothing off this trouble yowr ladyship. I hope and am perswaded thair is better coming. God grant itt; and that in so doing I may approve my self ane honest man, and

Yowr ladyships humble and obedient servant,

St. Andross, December 18, 1645. JA. MURE.

I haue commanded that to be wroght whilk your ladyship writs for, their being nane for the present; and sall send itt with the first.

For my very honorable and noble lady, the Contess of Eglintone.

Alexander, first Earl of Leven, to Hugh Lord Montgomery, afterwards seventh Earl of Eglintoun, 10th April 1645.

160. My lord — I receaued your letter; and becaus I am certified from Yorke that Prince Rupert is upon his march toward Newworke, yow shall therefore be very careful to keep a good watch and good intelligence, sending out your partie as farr you conveniently may. I conceaue that party you have sent to the pass at Richly not very safe at that distance, being so farr from your selues, and so neer Skipton; whereof I wold haue yow takeing speciall notice, and looking weell to it;

for yow will better know the nature of the place, and the expediency of their being there, then I can weell considder at this distance. Those things I leaue to your care, and for present shall remain your assured freind,

Newcastle, 10th Apr. 1645. LEUEN.

For my Lord Montgomry, to be found at the quarters in Hallyfax, or els where, in those parts.
Hast. Hast. Post Hast.

Let this be sent presently by post. FER. FAIRFAX.
Yorke, 13th, 9 in the morninge.

The same to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 24th September 1645.

161. My lord—I could not but congratulat the happy victory wherewith God hes blissed yow against the Rebells; and shew you lykewyse how glad I wes to hear of your behaviour and your sones. Truly there is no better meanes of acquyring honour then to releive a distressed contrey; and I pray God that advantage may be effectually prosecuted to the comfort of that people. I referr your lordship to the publict papers, concerning the nixt undertakeings of this Army, which is remitted to the determination of the meetting appointed for that purpose. I must shew your lordship my intention to lay doun my charge, being now become unable to performe such duty as I wold for the publique; and therefore I shall earnestly entreat your lordship to be furthering and assisting to me in procuring an exoneration, that I may be fairly discharged; as I haue written to the Estates for that effect. Having no more to add for present, I remain

Your lordships humble seruant,

Northalerton, 24 Sept. 1645. Leuen

For the right honorable, the Earle of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 28th November 1645.

162. My lord — Becaus I am aboundantly perswaded of your integrity and straight desyres for the peace and happines of our poor distressed kingdome, I haue thought it necessary with all earnestnes to desyre your lordship to employ your utmost endeavours to preserve an union at this tyme in the Parliament, and labour to sie justice ministered equally, to the confusion of the enemyes of God and his cause, and the comfort of that afflicted countrey: for truly it seemes very strange to honest men, that there should be any to appear for those that haue done all that lay in their power to ruine their countrey. I haue great confidence in your lordship, which makes me writ thus friely. Yesternight wee came to this place, and took the bridge of Moscome, and the sconse on the other side, within les than a mile of the river. I pray God saue us from your divisions at home. Though I haue not led such an inconsiderable party these many yeirs, yet there shall be nothing left undone by me which may contribute to the publict good. If your

lordships sone Colonel Robert com hither to us, I shall strive to supply your absence, and in euery thing approve myself to be your lordships most affectionat seruant,

Greatmoscome, 28th Nov. 1645. LEUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglintone.

The same to the same, 31st December 1645.

163. My lord — I receaued both yours of the 27 of this instant December, for the which I giue you most hearty thankes, and doe earnestly desire the continuance of a good correspondence betuix us, which shall neuer be omitted by me at any tyme when occation presents. The Earle of Rutland, Lord Willoughbye, Sir William Armyne, and certain others, are come doun to the Armye; and I haue written to the Parliament that they would be pleased to send up some able men and of qualitye to treat with them, as weel for the good of the Armye, as for the surrender of the toun, or any thing els that may fall out for the good of the seruice. Our Armye is now in a uery miserable condition for the want of maintinence; and as yeet there is uery litle care taken for the supplye thereof. There is 15,000 lib. come doun to the Armye, and certain other prouisions. I am uery sorry for the slow progresse that is made in setling your distracted effairs, and pray God giue them all streight and honest hearts to prosecut this work faithfully. I am uery euill satisfied that your sonns two regments did not come heer; and should have done any thing that might haue been for their good. I haue no further to writt to you for present, but to entreat your lordship not to forget me, as I shall euer be mindfull and willing to express my selfe

My lord, your lordships humble seruant,

Newcastle, last December 1645. LEUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglington.

Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, 23rd December 1645.

164. My deirest hart — Glad am when I heir from yow or can find any occatione to send to yow wherby I may kno of your weillbeing; quhilk gif me leiu to tell yow, I dout much of. I haue had two of yours; the one from Willame Home, the other from William Mudi; wherin ye deseyr a thousand punds Scotts, and that with haist. Willame Home shew me ye wrett the lyk to him, who assured me it should be at yow with the best haist he could mak; otherways I should haue send it to you with some of me Ledy Mongomris men, who is com to her lord. My deir hart, sori am I that be apeirance ye well stay so long at that parlement, to be wittnes to so littell gud as I feir be done at it; for by all apeirance mens pertickwallares sall rewin this pur kingdome. The Lord help it! bot my deir hart, it war gud for yow to com home, and safe the pur fortwne ye haue heir; for ther is no les feir heir then that Allaster com ower and tak all that can gett, and burne the rest; so that for my awen part, I kno not what cours to tak, the Lord knois, for my awen safti; whether to flei

from this part to some other, wher I may secur my self, or to stay heir to be a pray to runigatt willanes. It is weri hard for me being bot a stranger, and knois whom to adress my self to, being left to myself. If your sonne Collenell Robert had stayed in ther pairts, I would hawe had no feir att all: it was no littell pollici amongs meikell mair that coms from that part of the world wher that come frae, to remowe his regment frae amongs ws, and to plant in ther place other mens dragoneirs that newer did wss gud yett, bot much hurt to this land. Therfor, my hart, if ye well not come yourself, lett me kno what is your well that I should do, for I will do nothing bot what yow precrywe me; therfor ye most haist me back word; for I assur yow they ar looking everi night for him in Arrane, for man, wyfe and bairne is coming ower to this syd, and all ther goods that they can gett transportit, both out of Arrane and Bute; for he is weri strong, and that I feir we find er it be long. The Lord help ws! Our committi of the shyr hes mett wpon it one Fryday last, and is to meitt this day againe to sei what may be the best way to keip him off the land; bot they ar so dewydit they well newer do gud, bot sitt and talk wpone the bussines whell the haell contri well be spoylett; and that is weri eislly done in ther lange light nights; and they may go away againe when they pleis, without opositione; for they that hes a hous well keipit, and thes that wents, well flei as far as they may. This is the treu case we ar in: ye wold do mor gud heir your self nor any new regment wold do, unles it war your sonne Collenell Robert's. This, my hart, I expect ye well think wpon, in regard it concernies your fortune mainly, and your bairnes and me, who sall ewer be, my deir, yours only,

Eglintowen, 23 December 1645.
I resawit yours 22.

For my lord, the Earll of Eglintowen.

My deir hart, caus gif this letter to Sir Willame Scott of Clarkintone, so sone as this comis to yow.

Mr. Zachary Boyd to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 11th November 1646.

165. Right noble lord — The ministers of Glasgow had order from the Presbytrie to attend your lordship when yee came to the towne in your goeing east, and in our name to requeast your lordship that the settling of the kirk of Eglishim with all conveniencie might be hasted; and in particular, to recommend to your lordship ane young man, ane of our expectants, a good and qualified youth, Mr. William Young, sonne to the minister of Ruthglen, for that place. But being informed by them that your lordship was gone from this before they heard of your being heere, I am directed by the Presbytrye to present the same desire to your lordship, intreating that your lordship will be pleased to take notice of the young man, as one whom wee are confident will cary him self in all due respect to your lordship, and will be able and carefull to watch

for the good of that flock, and so to hasten the planting of that kirk. By doeing whereof yee shall oblige the whole Presbytrie, and none more then your lordship's most humble seruant,

From Glesgow, the 11 of November 1646.

To the right noble and potent earle, the Earle of Eglintoune. These.

The same to the same, 15th March 1647.

166. My very honourable good lord — I haue acquent the Presbytrie with your lordships letter. As concerning the young man your lordship hath sent to vs for to vndergoe his tryalls, the Presbytrie hath found that they can not; and that by reason the presentation is not after the forme that your lordship hath given to others, nor yet according to that communing your lordship had with the brethren at Edinburgh: but I hope that your lordship will come west to the Synode in Irvine, and there your lordship will meet with the brethren, so as I think your lordship and they shall agree in a friendly way. As for the postscript of your lordships letter concerning Mr. Robert Tran, the brethren thought it equitable that he should not passe from his possession till he got satisfaction of all that was due, and that done, he should doe as your lordship doth require. So recommending your lordship to the mercy of God, I rest,

Your lordship's most humble servant,

From Glesgow, the 15 of March 1647. M. Zachary Boyd.

Your lordships presentation is in our hands, which we shall think vpon till your lordship come west, and meet with our brethren, Mr. David Dicksone and Mr. Robert Baillie, who, as we hope, shall be good instruments for peace and contentment to all parties.

To the right noble and potent earle, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, 10th May 1647.

167. My honorable lord and most loueing father — I haue neglected no occasion in wryting to your lordship; bot I haue not harde from your lordship sinc my last coeming to this kyngdom, excepe with Louetennant Thomsone, and onc befor. I haue nothing to impart to your lordship bot what was in my last; onlie ther is on officer who liueth about Carlinforde, that heath the best intelligenc of all the enimeis enterpryses of annie in this kyngdome; and he heathe undertaken for my Lord Ards releasement in a werie short tym, and if he sall effectuatt it, he is to haue a thousand pounds sterling, bot ther feue hes annie hops of his success in it; but whateuer sall be the euent of it, your lordship sall knaue with the first occasion. We can haue no intelligenc wher the enimies forces ar for the present; bot as is reported they ar in Munster. Ther

is come from Ingland to Dubling 2 regiment of horse and 4 of foott; and it is constantlie reported that Sir Thomas Fairfaix army is presentlie to come ouer. Our miseries heir daylie encreaseth; bot the expectation we haue of the Parliament large satisfactions to us for our by past sufferings and seruice, makes us endure, with a grat deal patiens, wich otherways we walde not: and this is all I can shaue your lordship for the present, bot that I am

Your lordships most obbedient sone and seruant,

Neutoune, the 10 of May 1647. J Montgomerie

Sir Fredrike Hamiltoune sone is kiled in Connacht with his to much fordwardnes in persueing of some feue rogs. The beaerer can informe your lordship of all neues, who is michtilie wronged as euer a gentleman hathe beine, and the Generall werie much slichted; wherfor I entreate your lordship to befreinde all ye can, ether to the Generall who it so much concerns, or to annie other he will delyver a letter from your lordship to.

My Lord, sinc the wryting of this ther is intelligence come from the Maister of Connuay, that Auen Makcart is at Carrik Makleroiche with an army of tuentie thousande men; and that he is to diwyd his army, and to come with the grater part of them himself straight upon us in thir quarters, and the other part to goe to the county of Loundounderrie wher the Steuarts ar; and Prestoune is gone tauards Dubling: that wich was undertaken for my Lord Ards, it seims, will not had; for it is that man wich was the undertaker giueth the intelligenc to the Maister of Conuay.

For his most honnorable lord, the Eaerle of Eglintoune.

Mr. James Sharp to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 24th July 1647.

168. May it please your lordship—Your favorable cariage tovards me, grounded upon the recomendation of two venerable men, my worthie freinds, and expressed by your lordship honouring me with your letter (which came to my hands the 23 of this instant,) of invitation to come and preach at Egilshim the 25 of this month, doth challenge at my hands all maner of submisse and satisfactorie deportement, which is within my reach to vse tovards your lordship; but I humblie begg your lordships pardon by these to signifie that, in this particular, I am not able to give obedience to your lordship's desire; because my present condition is in such an posture as will not permitt me to preach anie where befor this ensuing General Assemblie; for till then my tryalls befor the Presbytrie of Edinburgh cannot be finished: efter which tyme, if the Lord shall evidence to me that He hath in some measure fitted me for the sacred ministrie, I intend to take such course as His clearest call and most speciall providence will hold furth

to me, and honest men, to whom I am ingaiged, will advyse me to follow. Thus, wishing all happines may attend your lordship, I rest your lordships most humble servant,

Edinb. 24 of July 1647. James Chalmers

For the ryght honorable my lord Earle of Eglintoun. Thes.

Hugh Lord Montgomerie to Colonel James Montgomerie, his brother, 13th February 1648.

169. Most honored dir brother — I haue receued both yours of the 27 of the last month and of the 1 of this, and am exceding joyfull of my Lord of Airds relaisment and welbeing. Our Commissioners ar all cume home; and reports the King hes giuen them full satisfactione: as yet, they haue not med ther report to our Committe; bot so sune as they haue I shall acquent you with it particularlee. We all expect that neue forssis shall be raissed; bot the Parliament of Ingland hes sent the Earell of Denbie and 3 of the louer hous, Commissioners to our Parliament, quich sits doune the 3 of March, and it is fered ther faire prommisses with ther goold may deuert many; bot we houp not honest men, quich is the prayer of all thes.

So I intrait you taike no bruske resolutione in the interime; and I shall not faill to acquent you how bussineses pases, and at all occationes shall approue my self your most affectionat brother,

MONTGOMERIE.

Kilwinning, 13 Feb. 1648.

When I was in Edinburgh, I spok my lord our father to send you sum monys, and I persev he hes given order to send you sume; bot I shall dille that he may send you more. Our Commissioners hes not as yet med ther report; bot it is certaine that forses will be raissed quhen the Parliament sits douen. Our brother shaues me he hes written all newis to you; so I refer you to his letter. My lords hors Benniton hes wone ane match at Lith, of my Lord Hadington, of 20 pises; and much monys was wine in by lays.

For my honored brother, Collonell James Montgomerie.

A. Balfour, Countess of Wemyss, to Anna Countess of Eglintoun, 17th May 1648.

170. Most deir madam — Quhain I reseueid your laist I wos bi the way reiding to Bourghlei to my fathers houes, to meitt my sistirs, and sie my sonne I haid nott sein this 12 month, and touk my youngist sonne alongs ther with mei; so I could nott geit an laittir shouner retournd, quharine I michtt shoue your keindeist seilf houe far I theink my seilf obligid to youe for your reall respeiks poutt oupon hir quho uos neuer worthei of them: dirist madam, an houndir tymyss in the day ar yei in my meind; and your expreson of Weillei, my loue, gos neuer outt of my hartt: for the cheild I wreitt of to youe wos seik is my sekond dochtir Margrett, on quhom all thatt saue hir said uos

leikist to my seilf in eurei theing, both outuard and inuard, of anei barn thatt euer I bour, and eurei uain alaigeid I loud hir beist of all my dochtirs; bott I will nott say so my seilf; bott this mouch to my other seilf I will say, shoue is als far beiyond mei and hir eldir sistir toue in everei theing on erth saue hir louks, as euer barn uos beiyond mother or sistir. This barn is dangerouslei sik of an gritt feuer and host with itt; yea I think sik ontou death, or els I wold haue bin loth to haue uentid so mouch of hir; and, alas, I think the uantt of my kompanei and hir sistirs so long ouer the watir, and haueing no kompanei with hir thatt shoue respeiktid hais brocht all on hir that ails hir; for I leift hir weill, bott, alas! to my meind, has found hir gonne: noue sins shoue has gotin mei shoue will nott, with hir will, wantt mei outt of hir sicht on our with contentmeintt; and quhain I am in it I dar nott louk sad, no nott so mouch as still on siche; for that uor deith to hir and shoue hard itt. So, dirist madam, I houp yei will pardon this tedious latir quhan yei think on my estaitt at this presantt. Your ladyship shoue me yei uold go shortli outt of toun, okaisoneid bay reison of outt poutin of your mein for this expedition. I knoue my lord your sonne is uon of the colloneils of the shair as all the reison of the uorld is for itt; bot I knou nott if his lordship bei uon of thes thatt secritt komitie has namd to goe outt at this preisantt. The reson maiks mei so koureious is, they haue namd my housband on, bott I am sour for no loue nor respeik to him; so I uold fain knoue quhait honeist men mo to the kaues they haue namd to goe outt that they michtt all doue thatt, nor for the glorei of God and the peis of ther auin konseiens, and kar nather for Komiti, Parlamentt, nor nothing eils. I knoue itt is to my Ladei Eglinton I am wreiting this, and I beig your ladyship to reid and bourn, and latt non brithing knoue quhaitt is in itt, saue your sueitist seilf, to quhom I haue laid opein my hartt, being the fleish brithing I think most uorthei of itt; and sall leiue, madam, your auand faithfoulest trow seruant brithing,

A. Balfour.

Weimyss, 17 May 1648.

I will preisent my serues to non bot your suitist seilf, nor nons serues to youe; for non knoues of my latir bot the birir.

For my euer honored ladei, the Countis of Eglinton.

General Thomas Dalzell of Binns to Colonel James Montgomery, 24th May 1648.

171. Sir — If the berer be as reseruit as he uas at youer pairting, I heue desayert the general quarter-maister to comounecat eure thing to you that is com to the eirs of youer homble seruant,

Carikfergus, the 24 Maye 1648.

Excuis me for being so abrup, being it is nou sermon tyme.

For Colonel Jemis Mountgumray. Theis.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Colonel James Montgomery, his son, 21st June 1648.

172. Loueing sonne — I ressaueit zour letter daittit at Craigfergus the 17 of this instant, schowing me that ze ar to haue a randevow the 26 of this instant; and ze schow me it will be knawn then who will be willing, who will be vnwilling. I wish ze be not verrie willing to it; for I sie no appeirance thay haue Godis direction in thair wayes, and thair is small appeirance thay sall haue good succes to thair intentiones. Thay haue bein most rigorrous in plundering of this cuntrie, and als malicious agains thes that war not against them in the conflict at Mauchling, as thais who war against them. Thay haue wraickit the pairoch of Beith, and vndon my Lord Airds tennentis thair, and severall vther plaices in the Barronthorrow and Cuninghame alsoe: for the most pairt thay haue vndon thes tuo schyres; and as for Kyll, it is vtterlie vndon. The nobilitie, gentrie and cuntrie people ar soe insenceit at thair proceidingis, it will not faill bot will draw to ane mischeif; for the last day that the Parliament sat, thay maid ane act of parliament which is a verrie dangerous ane, both to religion and monarchicall governement, and intendis to caus ane oath be sworn by the Kings subjectis to obey what evir thay command; whilk I think will not be don in haist, bot will reddilie move a civill war: Bot I think thay sall gait moir adoe for the forces that was heir; the most pairt of them ar directit with Middiltoun, who is Livetenant-Generall now, toward Cairlill to supplie Sir Marmaduick Londaill, who is in great fear of the forces who hes approchit thair; for Colonell Lambert is come doun with 2000 hors and 2400 foot, all trained and abill men, and Sir Marmaduicks men ar bot all new takin on. It is certainlie reportit that my Lord Fairfax will be thair befoir this letter can come to zour handis, with great forces to beseidge Bervick and Cairlill. Be all appeirance thair will be hard work; and the vnwilingnes of our people makis me think the wors of it, and the greit division that is amongist our selves. Thair came in schipes from Holand vpon Fryday last, with a great daill of ammunition to the Duick, who is now Generall, and letters schowing that the Prince will be heir schortlie; sum sayes within ten dayes. The Duicks faxion waittit and tuick the merchant packit this last weik, out of sume jealousie they tuik that thair was sum people heir gave intelligence to the Inglish what we war doeing heir. Thay find sum to that purpois, bot not of that straine thay thought to have fund, bot thay seim to mak much of them: as I heir farder of it, I sall schow zow efterwards. I doubt not bot ze have hard the certaintie of the conflict at Mauchling: the Livetenant-Generall new maid, callit Middiltoun, was evill hurt in the heid, and cuitt in thrie pairtis on his back, and verrie hardlie persewit be ane blacksmyth; and Colonell Hurrie evill hurt alsoe on the heid: as for common trouperis, thair was almost als many slaine as was of the cuntrie people; bot gif the cuntrie men had had officeris to have commandit them, it had not gon as it did; for the ministeris that war with the cuntrie men diswaddit the moist pairt of the cuntrie people, and maid them goe of the feild to eschew scheding of blood. The ministeris war Mr. Mathew Mowat, Mr. Gabriell Maxwell, and on Mr. Wyllie, who is minister at Mauchling. This is the certaintie of all. My Lord Calendar and I had sum discours, anent

zour over comeing, that he had intentioun to ajoyn thes foot to zow who war ordeinit for my Lord Cochrane. I know it will bot breid jealosies betwixt my Lord Cochrane and zow; thairfoir I think it littil worth; for thay ar bot littil boyes that is new put out for souldiours, and will not be vseful for any. Thairfoir I wold not wish zow to ingadge for any intysing of that kynd; this I speik reallie as becomes a father; and the half of them will not be gottin out, for all our abill men ar in Irland. I tak God to witnes I deill frilie with zow, both for zour honour and well, and desyres zow to tak the counsall of my Lord Airds, Generall Major Munro, Sir James Montgomerie, and William Schaw, whom I know will deill faithfullie with zow, and honoris and respectis zow, and spair not to schow my letter to them all, and remember my love and service to them. Soe wishing zow all health and happines, I rest zour loueing father,

Eglintoun, 21 Junii 1648. EGLINTOUN.

Farder, thair is 4 troupes left heir to caus the people put out the souldiouris; thay are to be commandit by my Lord Glencairne and zour broyther; for Glencairne hes gottin a commission to change his foot in hors. He intends to haue 300 hors for his foot: he desynes a mounted trouper for thrie foot men; bot I think it will not be gottin don. This is all.

For Colonell James Montgomery, in the kingdome of Irland.

The same to the same, 22nd June 1648.

173. Loueing sone — I wrait ane letter to zow zisterday, whilk will schaw zow all thingis that I can schaw zow concerning all thingis heir; and this only to schaw zow that all freinds ar well heir, and zour chirurgiane is the cairier of it, who promised to bring it to zow with dilligence; and he hes that Act of Parliament I wrait of to zow along with him. Gif ze haue gottin any halkis for me, send them over; for it is tyme they war maid: zour brother hes a rid on alreddie. Also caus send thes tuo deir to me that Capitane Drumond promised me; and caus scheir sum gras and put in besyd them. What fraught ze agrie for, I sall pay it vpon the sicht of zour letter what ze agrie for; and gif thair be any mae young anes in the cuntrie, speick Bellie Gellie and sum vtheris to get me sum. Soe desyring zow to let me heir from zow with dilligence, I rest

Zour loueing father,

Eglintoun, 22 Junii 1648. EGLINTOUN.

For Colonell James Montgomrie, in the kingdome of Irland. Thes.

Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Colonel James Montgomerie, her brother-in-law, 22nd June 1648.

174. Honored brother — I haue receued yours, wherin you showe me hou ssorie you ar to kno that I was enie way displised with you for your carredge in enie sort; and disyrs to clearr your salf, in that you hard I took exceptions at. It is troue I, regreating, sed to your sister my

Lady Anna, that my lord was within a feue days becom mor ernest and bent to fallou this unhappie ingadgment, then formerly I had known him; whither your shouing your salf so satisfied with it had confirmed him the mor in his oppunion, or not, I knowe not; but I feired it had: and the reson I did suspecte you in it was, I beliued you to be in that oppunion with manie (and my salf amongst the rest), to be ernest to haue euerie on thay loue as far on in enie thing as them salfs: and giue me liue to say so much to you, the respect I carried to you med me the mor grieued to sie you so much loue that way which I hatte from my heart, and euerie day doos it the mor; thay go on in such a ueiolant way as the lyk was neuer hard in Scotland: I beliue it shall proue for ther roueing at last. I pray God to lat your brother sie ther weicked intentions, and saue him from ther punishment; which I troust he shall do: bot, truly, it is greious to me for the present to sie him caried along with them; tho, I blisse God for it, he hes not accted enie thing as yit. As for noues from this, the rest of your friends will lat you kno them, which I beliue will be most to shoue you how only thes that hes formerly bien honort and hes the name of religioun, suffers now in Scotland; which may declare the intentions of thes that gyds Crestienss, tho sum is so blinded thay will not sie it; and I pray you may be non of the number, for you shall neuer want the good wishes of

Your affectionat sister and saruent,

Killwining, 22 Jun 1648. Marie Leslie.

For my honoredd brother, Colonell James Montgomerie.

Hugh, third Viscount Montgomerie of Great Ardes, afterwards created Earl of Mount-Alexander, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 7th August 1648.

175. Right honorable and my very good lord—Being informed by Generall Quarter Master Drumund that your lordship had a minde to two deeres which are heere, hee not hauing the opportunitye to send them himselfe before his leauing this countrye, I haue now sent them along by this bearer, who hath promised to haue a great caire of them, soe that I hope they will come safe to your lordships hands. The greatest newes wee haue in this country is, that, lately in Dublin, vpon the discouery of som plot intended, as is reported, for the takeing of the Castle, sixteene gentlemen and officers are apprehended; the halfe of them are sent ouer to the parliament of England, and the rest kept prisoners by Jones: the names of the cheifes are, Sir Maurice Eustache, Sir John Giford, Collonell Flower, and Collonell Willoughby, all great seruants of my Lord of Ormond. The diuisions betwixt the Irish continues: our countrye is in such an extreame want of victualls that wee cannot possibly marche abroad to doe any seruice, though it might gaine the kingdome. If my cosen Collonell James bee theire, I pray your lordship showe him that the countryes vnabilitye and refractariness is such, that this day I haue beene forced to giue orders for a partye of my owne horse and foote to leift his regiment mentinance

by force; howsoeur I shall indeauour to prouide for them till the end of this moneth. Thus intreating to heere from your lordship the trueth of all occurences frequently, I rest

Your lordships most affectionatt cosen and humble seruant,

Carrikfergus, 7th of August 1648.

Collonell Monke hath taken in the forte of Bellyhoe by storme; and wee heare that our forces in Conoght are now joyned with Preston against Owen M^c^Art O Neill.

For the right honorable and my very good lord, the Earle of Eglingtone. These.

The Committee of Estates to Alexander sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 3rd October 1648.

176. Right honorabill — We have appoynted a generall meiting of this Committie to be keept at St. Andrewes vpon Tuisday, the 14th instant, for considering of such things as are to be offered by the English Commissioners, and for satling the effares of this kingdome, and their armyes at home and in England. The maters are of great and publict concernment, and do require the best advice of a frequent meiting: and therfor this is seriously to entreate yow preceisly to keepe that dyet, as wee have resolved to do for our parts. And being assured yow will not fail, wee rest your affectionat freinds,

ARGYLL. CRAUFURD & LINDESAY.
TULLIBARDINE. LAUDERDAILL.
Dunce, 3 October 1648. LANERICK. LOTHIAN.

Your lordship is desired to send this enclosed letter to Jo. Kennedy, and write to him your selfe particularly to keep the diet precisly.

For the right honorabill the Erle of Eglintoun.

Lady Anna Montgomerie to Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, her stepmother, 8th January 1649.

177. Dier madam — Tho I haue nothing to wret to your ladyship that is worthei of your heiring, yet the long that I think to hear from your ladyship, how ye and my bruther and sisters is, maks me that I can let no ocasion pas on wreiting to you. All your freinds heir is will. It is thought that the King is cote of; for the armei did ordein a counsel of war to sit upon him: treouly it is

much feired heir. So this is all that I haue to say; only I most intret your ladyship to let me heir from you with eueri ocasion, for it will be uerie much contentment to her, who is

Your ladyships affecinat doughter and humbl seruant,

Edinburgh, the 8 of Januar 1649. A. M.

I haue sent your ladyship a count of John Mins, which is oune him euer sens your brother was maried. Your ladyship may louk amongst the rest of the counts if it be payed or not; if it be not, I wad intreit your ladyship to caus peay it.

For my Lady Montgomerie.

Mr. Samuel Rutherfurd to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 15th March 1649.

178. My verie noble lord — I am loathe to trouble your lordship with solicitationes; yit since the caise of on of our number vrgeth me to it, I trust your lordship will pardone me to intreat that your lordship wald befreind on of our vniversitie, ane honest youth, Mr. Alexander Pitcarne, regent in the old coledge, who cannot now leave his chairge to wait on buisienes at Edinburgh, who is now no lese concerned then to the hazard of almost his whole proper meanes, in the pasing of a compryseing led against the Laird of Barnes befoir the Exchequer, vnder the name of James Tailzeur, burges of St. Androis, to quhome he hes maid assignatioun of that sowme restand by Barnes to him: they wer in diligence prior to wther comprysouris by a monthis space; and, if thair proceiding in law hade not bene stoped be ane invincible impediment (the Kingis death), they had beine onquestionablie prior still. If thairfoir your lordship wald be pleasit not to suffer theme to be wronged by persones of greater powir and moyan, and accept thair comprysing in the first place befoir the Exchequer as law and reasone requyres, your lordship sall shawe great kyndnes to the young mane, and a singular favour to the vniversitie; for which and many wtheris of that kynd, I remaine your lordships, at all obledged obedience, servant in the Lord,

Frome St. Androis, 15 Merche 1649.

For the noble lord, Earle of Eglintoun. Theis. Mr Samuel Rutherfurd

Robert Fergushill [of that Ilk] to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 9th April 1649.

179. Right honorable — Littell nor nothing hath occurred since my last to your lordship, butt that wpon Satturday at night, their came about the matter of ten or tuelf prisoners from the Generall Levitennent: they were taken out of ane shipp goeing for Holland to the King, with ane commission to be signed by him. There are no persons of qualitie amongest them, except one Major Straughan and Mr. John Crookshanks; then ane other Mr. William Orde, ane pryme malignant, who hath constantly travelled betuixt this kingdome and James Grahame with intillegence. Wee have heird nothing since from Holland. The Generall Levitenent is now at Brichen. As for

neus from England, I refer your lordship to the enclosed dyurnall, which came this day be the post. So haveing nothing further at present, but that I am, my lord,

Your lordships most faithfull and obedient seruant,

Edinburgh, 9 April 1649. R. FERGUSHILL.

My Lord — It is the fears of manie heir, that these forces appoynted to goe for Ireland visite Scotland be the way; be reason they have placed their magazine in Liverpool and some other tounes neir our borders. Letters are sent through the shyres for hastening up the leavie.

To the right honorable the Earl of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 28th April 1649.

180. Right honorable—All the newes I can writt to your lordship at this tyme will not satisfie your expectation. Annent that bussines in the north, I doubt not but your lordship will hear more particularly from Collonell Robert; but housoever, I shall only touch it a littell. Vpon Munday, early in the morneing, Petter Innes came with ane letter of credence from the Generall Levitennent: but, my lord, the letter it self was keeped closs, so that we heird nothing of it but what he did verbaly expresse in presence of the Committee; which was thus, that Atholl were absolutely wp, and had joyned with the Lord Ogilvie, and had ane intention to stop his march southward; and that the name of M^cKenzie were marching hard wpon his reare; quhilk indead, my lord, did surprize the Committee, that they knew not what course to fall wpon theirin, and resolued to hasten wp the proportion of horse, and appoynted the longest day of rendezvous to be wpon the tenth of Aprill next, at the Bridge of Sterline. But, my lord, Collonell Arnot came yesterday from the Generall Levitennent, who shewes that the Generall Levitennent hes dissipate almost all these that were with Pluscarden. But, my lord, the report of the ryseing of Atholl forced him to retire: housoever, he hath brought of Collonell Frazer and the Laird of Lumlarie, who heath given bonds as they are Cristians and gentlemen, and under the paine of perjurie and infimie, never to take up armes in so illegall and unwarrantable a course. My lord, the Generall Levitennent keeped the hour and place of my Lord Ogilvies randezvous; but he tooke the allarum verie hote before he came within four myles of him, and fled to the Braes of Angus. The Generall Levitennent was in Atholl yesternight. Wee hear, my lord, that Sir Josepth Douglas is this day landed in Dumbar; but I can have non of his newes to writt to your lordship at this tyme, be reason the bearer could not stay: but, God willing, with the next occassion it shall be sent your lordship by him who desires to be esteamed, my lord,

Your lordships most faithfull and obedient seruant,

Edinburgh, 28 April 1649. R. FERGUSHILL.

Your lordship shall heir receave, heir enclosed, the Weekly Intelligence that came by the last post. The Commissioners are come home, but have not yet made their report.

For the right honorable, the Earl of Eglinton.

Hugh, first Earl of Loudoun, to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 15th May 1649.

181. My noble lord — Seeing my short stay in the cuntrie cannot permitt me to come and see your lordship, I send yow the copie of the letter writtin to me from Collonell Ker and the Lieutenant Generall; which will informe your lordship of the defeatt given to these rebells in the northe. My lord, I ame verie sensible of the burthens of the cuntrie; and, according to my estate, I bear as heavie burthen as any other; and I pray God to setle treuth and peace, that the cuntrie may be frie of burthens, and injoy the blessings of a safe and well grownded peace; bot till that be, it is better to bear burthen and giue pairt of our meanes to forces who ar our freinds, nor giue all to our enemies. If it pleas God to inclyn the Kings heart to grant the just desirs of this kirk and kingdome, our burthen will for a tyme be heavier, and our warres in all appearance wold be greatter; bot, vpon those termes, all gude men wold comport with trouble the more cheerfully: bot if His Maiestie (which God forbid!) follow evill counsell and badd wayes, his danger will be the greater, and our distractions and greivances will be the more lingering. However, it is our pairt in the worst of tymes to doe our deutie, and committ events to God. I trust to sie your lordship the next week at the Parliament; and in anything which may contribute to the publick gude of the cuntrie, or wherein I can giue testimonie of my obligations and respects to your lordship, noe man shall be more desirous and readie to doe you service and kyndnes, then

Your lordships faithfull freind and servant,

Lowdoun, 15 Maii 1649. LOUDOUN.

For the right honorable, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Lady Anna Montgomerie to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, her stepmother, 25th April 1649.

182. Deir madam — Thoe I haue no great subgeck worthie of the trublling your ladyship with, I cane not omit my doutie to your ladyship when I knoue of any beirers comeing to your ladyship. I shall be gllad to knoue houe your ladyship is in your heaelthe eaffter your phisek. I neid not trubell your ladyship to shoue youe the neues we heir from Irlland, for I knoue my lord will informe youe of them better then I cane doe. All your ladyships freindes heir ar weill; and I shall wishe to heir the leyk from your ladyship, which shall be great contentment to hir whoe is, madam, your ladyship's most affectionat doghter and humbell seruent,

Eglintoun, the 25 of Apreill 1649. ANNA MONTGOMERIE.

Madam — My Lady Stouart presentis her humbell serueces to your ladyship. Shoe is muche your ladyships serueant; and shoe seayes, so shoune as shoe comes east shoe shall weat on your ladyship, be wher ye will, if ye be at ane of your oune houses.

For the right honorabell and most nobell lady, the Countes of Eglintoune.

Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father.

Parise, the 3 of Jully 1649.

183. My honorable lord and most loueing father — Thoghe I haue nothing of moment to acquaint your lordship with, nether doe I knaue houe acceptable my letters ar to your lordship, seeing it hes not beine my happines to haue annie from your lordship since my coeming from Scotland, except onc; yet according to my deuetie, I sall neglek no occasion of wryting to your lordship, and sall endeawoer, so far as is possible, not to doe annie thing wich may be offensiue or discreditable to your lordship, houe harde soeuer my condition may be; bot sall stryue, God wiling, to the utmost of my pouer to leiue so spaeringlie as cane be imagined, as becometh your sone and a youngest brother, till such tym as it sall be my happines to heaer from your lordship: wherfor I sall humblie and eaernestlie entreate that, with your lordships first conweniencie, I may heaer from your lordship what sall be your lordships pleasur houe I sall employ my tym duering the tym I am abrode; and if it so be your lordship cannot or will not supplie in what I stand in neede of, wich I haue acquainted your lordship with in my former letters, all I sall desyr is, that your lordship will not deale so hardelie with me as to withhold or diminiche that fatherlie loue and respeke I haue euer had from your lordship formerlie; and by Gods helpe no eaerthlie thing els sall much trouble me, thoghe I sall be so much put to it as to goe to fardest countries wher I sall not be knauen, and ther to seike my briede and leiuelihode, albeit it sould be in so harde and miserable a condition as the meinest of on of thos sojors I onc commanded: and my trust sall be in God, who doeth always prowyd for His aune, that if it sall be His pleasure so to dispose of me, He will lykwys giue me strength, patienc and resolution, to endur all hardnes and earethlie misereis whatsoever, as contentedlie as euer when I had gratest plentie: so if I loose not your lordships fauore, my condition sall be good houe meaenlie soeuer I sall be put to it to leiue. I came to this grat citie yesternight, and am to part out of it to morroue againe, God wiling. I happilie rancountered with Major Montgomerie heir, who heath shauen me all the courteseis and fauors that I could expeke, and heath waited so punctuallie on me as if he had beine my seruant. By his adwys and other Scots men I haue spoken with heir that knaueth the countrie, they think it my best to setel my self first in Orleans till I get some gripe of the langage; for ther is a Scots man teacheth it that can better mak me understand it at my begining then annie French man: bot so sone as I can get annie understanding of it, wich I hoepe to attaine to in a werie short tym, I will stay no longer ther, be reasone ther is grat resort of Scots men ther. Capitaine Georg Montgomerie is ther for present in the same Scots mans house. The pensione a moneth ther is fourteen crouns, and half a pistoll for euerie exerceise; bot thos heath a seruant payeth seven crouns moer a monetth; bot I sall haue non. My last intelligenc to your lordship concerning our Kyng, that he was not to coem to Franc, doeth not hold good; for certainelie he is to be at Saint Germains on Thursday nixt, wher his mother is gone alreadie: bot houe longe he will stay heir, or what course he will tak therafter, I doe not knaue. The Kyng of Franc army is rysen from

befor Cambrie; what the reasone of it is I knaue not. All is verie peacable heir for the present, bot no other is expected bot ther sall be a neue outbreaking againe; and this is all I can shaue your lordship, bot I sall euer endeawoer to approue my self as becometh

Your lordships most obbedient sone and faithful seruant,

J. MONTGOMERIE.

If your lordship be pleased to wryt to me, Robert Murray in Edinbruche is the man can best get them convoyed hither.

For his most honorable lord, the Eaerle of Eglintoun.

Colonel James Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, $\frac{1}{8}^{o}$ August 1649.

184. My honorable lord and most loueing father — Sinc my arryual in this kingdom I haue receaued tuo letters from your lordship, the on of the 16th of July, wich I receaued ten days agoe, and the other of the 23d of July, wich I haue receaued this morning; wherby I perceaue that your lordship is displeaesed with me for a letter I wryt from Holland, shaueing your lordship that I should haue barroued tuo thousand merks from Mr. Willame Spang, and desyred your lordship to haue repyed it, and then to haue wryten otherways to my brother Robert for sending of the same monie to Franc to me. I haue wryten to your lordship in ansuer to your first letter, wich, if it coem to your hands, I hoepe will giue [your] lordship all satisfaction in that particular; wherby I shaue your lordship that, after better consideratione, I receaued no moneie at all from Mr. Spang, lest therby not haueing annie order for it from your lordship, I micht haue procured your displeasure; and so prowyded myself another way without mentioning your lordships name, till such tym as I sould heaer from your lordship: so I hoep your lordship will conceaeve no otherways of it then it is; for this is the werie truth of the bussines; and God is my witnes that I am so tender of displeaseing of your lordship in annie kynde, as euer I shall be of the saeiftie of my aune lyf: bot if I had knauen that it wald not haue beine displeaesing to your lordship, it had beine moer aduantageous to me to haue taken it, for so I wald haue lost nothing of it, bot noue most loes hugelie by bils of exchang. I should haue parted from this 8 days agoe, bot that my moneis fell short on me; so that I behoued to wryt to Paris for a hundreth liuers to cary me away, wich I receaued bot yesternight; and I intend, God uiling, this afternone to goe doune to Blois, bot wher I sall mak my abode till such tym as I take my jorneie for Italie, I doe not yet knaue; but your lordship may be assuered that it sall be wher I can leaue at the eaesiest rat and haue my exercises best; bot so far as I can leaerne, I will not get a pension on all the riuer under tuelf crouns a moneth. For the moneth I haue beine heir I pyed fourten crouns, and Capitaine Montgomerie pyed the lyk befor my eys; for I will assur your lordship that euerie body sayeth that euerie thing is at a treiepell rate be when your lordship was in this countrie. I am sory from my heart that my Lord Ards actions are so much mistaken by church and state; bot your lordship neids not to feaer that I will [a word or two torn out] without haveing both your lordships aduyse and com-

mand in it [a word or two torn out] so desposed of me that I am heir at this tym; and, Goduiling, sall employ my tym the best I can this tuelf moneth to coem, befor wich tym I hoep God uill make euerie thing so cleaer as honest men may knaue houe they may [best] engadge themselfs. In the mean tym, I pray the Lord to preserue your lordship in all health, and [help] your lordship in thir dangerous tyms; and God uiling I sall endeauoer to approue myself as becoms

Your lordships most obedient [sone and] faithful saruant,

Orleane, the $\frac{1}{8}^{9}$ of Agust 1649. [J. MONTGOMERIE.]

For his most honorable lord, the Eaerle of Eglintoune.

Lady Anna Montgomerie to Margaret Countess of Eglintoun, her stepmother, 24th August 1649.

185. Deir madame — Haueing the ocasione of this beirer, I wolld not omit to shoue your ladyship that all your ladyships freindes heir ar in good heallthe; and it shall be great contentment to vs to heir the leyk of your ladyship, which shall be muche wished for by me. Ther is no leat noues from Irland, bot suche as I dout not bot Mr. Gillbert Ramsay hes shouen your ladyship in his letre; onlly we heir that yesterday my Lord Earde, and Gorge Monroe and Sir Robert Stouart, was to haue had a counsell of war at the Nouetoune, to sei what cours they should tak with the contrie, and to setell all deueisiones amoingest themselues. Thir being all I will trubell your ladyship with at this tyme, bot that I ame euer, madam,

Your ladyships affectionat doghter and serueant,

Eglintoune, the 24 of Agust 1649. *Anna montgoemerie*

Madam, recaue Mr. Gillbert Ramsays leter from the beirer.

For the right honorabell and most nobell lady,
the Countes of Eglintoune.

Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander, sixth Earl, her husband, 8th May 1650.

186. My deirest hart — I had your last yester night as I was going to bed, from me Ledy Twedallis man; bot this other of myne was wrettin yesterday to hawe com away with Hew Neiwine; bot I send this to yow so soune as I hard them this morning, to bring yow the gud and happi newis of the Kings agreiment with our Commissioners. A great wachter com wp this morning with letters to the Staett of it; ane Maister James Dallrumpell, that went avay with the Commissioners, broght

them, and a man of the Lord Cassellis. I hope my deir hart to sei yow heir shortly; for the Parlament well sitt dowin this day awcht days. My dochter is weill, going rowing about. Ye hawe done weri weill that hes putt that lowen quein to the yett; for I did heir er I com from that, they war suspecting the wnder stewart and her, bot could not gett it prowen; bot it is weill sho is gone now: all till wickednes about the towen go with her, and all lowens lyk her. God Allmighti send a gud tryell of all the wicthis, and send them a hotte fyre to burne them with. I did wrett two sewerall letters to you annent the Sheiriff sheip, bot I haue had no answer from you: I deseyr it so sone as ye may. Any ye send to me, send them to Dalkeithe, for I well be ther till Monday, I think; for me lord and his ledy taks it weri greiffously the daethe of ther sonne. Thus wishing to heir of your better health, I ewer am, my deir hart, yours only,

MRGIREITT SCOTT.

Edenburgh, 8 May 1650.

Just as I was ending thus, it is said that James Grame is takin in Cattnes: it is most trew he is on come to the [toun] and two other with him ther.

I forgott, in all my former letters, to shaw you I have spoken with a young man to be your chamberman; he is a pretti man and a gud taillour; was never at serwis befor. He shouht a hunder mark of fei; I offered him fourti pund, and so many of your old clothis as ye thoght gud your self. So lett me kno what ye will gif him, and I sall mak condishone with him as ye direct me.

For the Earll of Eglintowene.

Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father, 22nd August 1650.

187. My lord — I have receaved your lordships. The Lewtenent General is to send on to yow who came in from the enemy weell mounted: his father is a presbetrian minister in Lancashyre. Our resolutiones in the army have beene so contrar and uncertaine yesterday all day, that I could not advertise your lordship befor this tyme. Wee have resolved to draw our army a mylle or two westward, and draw up in a fair feild, and offer the enemy battell by shotting three peice of cannon towards them; but wee are affraid they will not come to us, knowing our straits for want of provision; which, if they doe not, we wilbe forced to march towards them, and fight upon all disadvantadges; for we must either resolve to doe that or sterve. Ther is many against the giving of the enemy a disvertisment by sending a party to England, in respect they wold not be able to fight ther forces which it is conceaved they haue on foot in the kingdome, except they should joyne with malignants, and assist thes who we are oblidged to fight against as well as sectaries. We are informed ther is a party of three thousand men coming to the border for to recruit the enemy, under the comand of my Lord Gray of Grubie, and fyve hundreth which is come over the border already, whom we resolve to send a party to intercept: which is all I have to show your lordship for the present; intreating your lordship to cumunicat this to my

Lord Drumfermling, and show him ther none more his servaunt then he who resolves to continue your lordships most obedient sone to serve yow till death,

At our Leagure neare Carstorphin, this 22 of Agust 1650.

Wee have ordered our army so, by puting all our best men, officers and souldiers in the battell, and the worst in the reserve, that we are hopefull, throw Gods strength, to carry the bussines by our battell; having the two part of our horse in it, and the third part in the reserve.

For his most honorable lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. Thes are.

Margaret Countess of Eglintoun to Alexander sixth Earl, her husband, 1st September 1650.

188. My deirest hart — I hawe two of your letters this week; the on of the daett 25, and the other the 27 of Agust. You complaine mwch you heir not from me freqwenly. I wrett thrys to yow the last week, quhilk I hop be com to your hands er now; when I kno of a commoditi that is sur to send my letters, quhilk hes maid me mak chus of this berrar to send to yow; for I hawe no futt man to send yow. I did wryt in ther two last letters of yours, that the Kirk and Staett was weri ernaist wpon the purging of your regment. My deir hart, as I hawe wrettin to you in two of my former letters, be not against them, nor refuse not to lett all thoss go that they hawe just resone againest; for ye well gett pretti men anew that they hawe nothing to oposse againes; and then when thes ar of and ye hawe als many honnest men in ther steid, if then they find out any falt to yow or them, ye well find then it is ther mallice to yow. I wold beg yow to gif them contentment in thes things that is not materiell, and not unnessiccarly to ingage yowrself in that quhilk may wrong yow so much as the refussall of purging of your regment; and if they should say they ar a burding to the contri, I wold ye should offer to lett them go to the armi so long as the Inglishe is heir, all sawe a gud troup to byd with yourself to attend the King. My deir hart, I pray God ye may think wpon the best of ther things. I wold, excep to me, ye wold misken ye think they do it for feir: when ye offer this, they well sone discower themsellwis what ther meaining is. Ye say ye hawe send Ann and me Saint Jhonestone glowis; bot we hawe not sein them yett. I had a letter from me Ledy Buckclewghe, wherin she regratis extreimly your wnkyndnes, that when ye war att your dochter att the sea syd, within four mylls of her, ye com not to sei her and the barnes: trewly, my hart, I wold not hawe expectit ye wold a bein so wnkynd to her; I will intreat misken ye hard any thing from me of it, and go mak a wissit to her. I most tell yow ther is great want of Thomas Tomson in this contri; for many bussines of yowrs goes wrong for want of him. Dawed Belli will serw alls weill wher yo ar as he well, or any wher, war not for the keiping of my clothis in the lodging in Edenburgh; for

I left him the keis of all I had ther, of all my plenishing that was in Mellwill and in Edenburgh both: howewer, if ye may spair him, I wold deseyr he should com ower to Edenburgh, and sei that the roottens hes not eattin them; for I left all to him in veri great confusione. I wold hawe them lookit to that they gett no harme; specally the pakis that com from Mellwill. I most trubell yow with all thir things, my deir hart, bot I hope ye well pardone my freidome; for I most dit with yow. Thus wishing you to hawe a car of yourself, and prays God to direct yow in all your ways, I ewer am, my deir hart, yours only,

Eglintowen, 1 September 1650. MRGIRETT SCOTT.

My deir hart, this day I hawe resawit your glowis, wherfor I render you many thanks; and with all, we hawe hard heir Crowmwell hes stollin his way againe, quhilk I could hawe wished he had rethar bein put away; bot the Lord knois what is best for wss.

For the Earl of Eglintowen.

Archibald Marquis of Argyll to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, 2nd April [1651].

189. My nobll lord — I was in Lorn when I receaved your lordships former letter; so I found no occasion to acknoledg your lordships favor as I now doe, for the renewed proofes of your lordships wndeserved kyndnes, which I shall studie to requyt according to my power. I doubt not bot all ways wilbe used for weakening ous every whair; bot blissed be His name whois caus wee manteine, if wee can doe it singllie as we ought, thair is no doubt of His blissing. My shipe is not out, nor intend I to send hir any whair in the reverence of the Kings ships, till I heaue both advyce and direction from the Committee and your lordship, with sum others in this corner of the kingdoom; for both shee and I ar to be disposed of as wee may be most conducabll for the publik; and whairin I can be usfull to your lordship, I intreat you mak use of your power, and command me as your lordships most affectionat freinde and servant,

Inverraray, ii April.

For my very nobll and muche respected lord,
the Erle of Eglintone.

The same to the same, 29th August [1651].

190. My nobll lord — I doubt not bot your lordship hes heard of the resolution for ane outfit of ane armie to Irland, whairin your lordship hes your speciall interest. Thairfor I houpe your lardship will be cairfull to intimat to all your lordship knoes weall affected in theis pairts, that thair barks and ships may be in readines so soon as they can, at Air and other places thair about, for this purpos; and as your lordship finds occasion, spair not to suffer the intelligence of it to goe to Irland as quikli as your lordship can, and I shall doe the lyk als secretli as can be;

and if your lordships greater affaris can permit, I should be glaid to see your lordship; and to this effect shall meet your lordship, God willing, at Greenok, on Thoursday the 3d of September, for sundrie reasons concerning thir pairts of the countrie. I doubt not bot your lordship will hear of the randering of this Castll; and becaus my cariadg is mor misconstructed then ane other mans, I heave given them honorable capitulation for his Majesties caus and Dewk of Lenox.

This is all the newes your lordship can expect from this. So command me ever as

Your lordships affectionat freinde and servant,

Dumbartun, 29 Ag. ARGYLL.

Let this remember me to my sister.

For the Erle of Eglinton, my muche respected nobll lord and cusin.

The same to the same, 22nd November [1651].

191. My nobll lord — I find by my last letters from London that my Lord Chancelers cuming is a litll delayed, wpon sum houps that his pains may beget sum bettr wnderstanding betuix the kingdoms; yit I hear the Committee hes cald him of new, so that in his absence thair seems to be the greater necessitie of your lordships presence, which, according to your promis, I will assoor myself and your freinds of undoubtedli. The letters I had shew the certantie of defeat given to Sir William Vahan, and of the two Princes creaving thair pas from the Parliament of Ingland, with 400 officers, the leist not under the degree [of] a Captain, with them; which was yeelded to. I will troubll your lordship no mor, but the presenting my service to your lady; so command me as your lordships most humbll servant,

Glesgow, 22 9br. ARGYLL.

For my muche respected nobll lord, the Erle of Eglintone.

[1] Lady Mary Leslie, Lady Montgomerie, to Archibald Marquis of Argyll, 11th September [1651].

192. My noble lord — Befor my lord marched with the King into Ingland, he had ane ordor vnder His Majesties hand for allowing of fourtie men of this new leavie, out of his fathers lands and his ovne, for the men he hes raised and maintaines in this place; it being als weil for the publict good as the safty of me and my children in these tymes. This order the Comittie of this shyre wil not allow of, except it receive the confirmation of the Comittie of Estaits, quich I am confident by your lordships favor to obtaine at ther first meiting, the quich (as I am informed) by your care is to be wery shortly. I have therfor sent thes of purpose to intreat that I may know from your lordship the certaintie when and wher it wil first meit, that I may

[1] This and the other four letters from Lady Montgomerie which follow, are printed from contemporary copies at Eglinton. Her Ladyship's letters bear to have been written in Lord Montgomerie's fort on the island of Little Cumbrae.

send one sufficiently instructed to attend, quich without this intelligence wold prove troublesome and chargable to me. This is al I have to trouble your lordship with at this tyme, but that I am obleidged to be, my lord . . .

I most by this tak the boldnes to present my most humble service to your lordships lady, and intreat that quhat newes your lordship hears, you wold be pleased to let me know them.

The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, 16th September [1651].

193. Madam — I receaved your letter yisterday, but if I had got it a week sooner I could have given your ladyship a better accoumpt; for thair was a meeting at Finlarik, whair thair was a full quorum of the Committee, but it is adjurned to Dunbarton, the 25 of this instant, whair I intend, God willing, to be present; and though I cannot undertak for what the Committee will doe, yit I think your ladyships desyr so just, that I am confident the Committee will not refoos it; and what assistance I can give for that effect, your ladyship may be confident I shall not be wanting in anything whairby I may evidence the reall desyr I have to approove myself, as I am tyed by many obligations, your ladyships most affectionat cusin and humbll servant,

Inverraray, 16 7br. ARGYLL.

For my Lady Montgomerie.

Lady Montgomerie to the Marquis of Argyll, 20th September [1651].

194. My noble lord — Although by your lordships kynd answer to my last (of quich I am wery sensible), I vnderstood of your resolution to be at Dumbartan the 25th of this present moneth, and that I intend, God willing, to send a man thither to wait upon your lordship; yet the fearful allarmes of the total defeat of our army in England coming so hot into these parts, not only by papers and lists of the prisoners names quich the enquiry sends out, but also this day is confirmed by a servant of my brothers, the General Major Montgomerie, who came from them, sawe the defeat; and quho affirmes that he did see the King escap with some officers with him out of Woster toune, and came of withe my lord, and David Lesly, and Midltoune, and Vandross, quho afterwards wer al taken in the countrey, 60 miles from Wostir; and he sayes my brother is also prisoner. I am so distracted with those sad disastirs, that I know not quhat to resolve upon; and I have wery few freinds neir me at present one qhose judgment I can relay much for advyce. And being impatient of delayes, not knowing quhat the consequences therof may be, and vncertaine but that these newes, or the coming of some of the enymies forces into this countrey (quich is lykwyse feared), may hinder your intended meiting at Dumbartan; being likwyse confident, not only of your lordships judgment, but also of your real freindship and affection to me and al myne, I could be at no quyet til I dispatched this bearer with those back to your lordship; humbly and earnstly intreating your lordship to let me have your ful and fre advyce quhat you think fittest for me to doe: first, in reference to my lord, for his releif

or supply in such straits as he by his imprissonment wil undoubtedly be in; next, concerning myself and childrens saftie and subsistance, and this place, quich my lord by his care and charges hes made a considerable strenth, and in regard of the situation of it might prove wery useful, as weil for the publict as my particular owne (and other freinds) good, and hes by Gods blessing been so this tyme past. But now I am affrayed, for many reassons (not fit to trouble your lordship with at this tyme), that without other helps then I, in my lords absence, can afford, I shal not be able to maintaine it in such a posture as is necessary to oppose a enimy; and my feares ar, that less then that may rather invite then keep of an enemy; quich, if it come into ther hands, may prove hurtful to the countrey. Thus, my lord, having so fully and freely made knowne both my thoughts and present condition to your lordship, I beleive you wil therby be confident that I not only expect your lordships advyce and directiounes in the lyk manner, but also your poureful and freindly asistance and help, both at this present and heirafter, as you (out of your bettir judgment) shal find necessary or fit for me, my children, and the rest of that family from tyme to tyme; quich sal ever thankfully be acknowledged, and according to power acquyted, by your lordships . . .

My Lord—I conceive a messenger must be presently sent by me to my lord with some supply: if your lordship think that must be, may I intreat your lordship to interpose your mediation by a letter to Munck, for a pass to such a servant as I shal send, qhose name I cannot yet expresse, not being resolved qho he shal be; but it shal be he that shall be the carier of your letter to Monk after it is come to my hands, quich I pray your lordship send by this bearer, togither with your advyce quhat yee wold have me to doe further, or if any other course be readyer and surer.

The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, 23rd Sepember [1651].

195. Madam — I receaved your letter just now; and though I shall not, God willing, disapoint your expectation of me, yet theis things your ladyship desyrs my advyce in ar of consequence, and it is hard to give suche a advyce in them in a sudden as I may stik to. Yit leist your ladyship should think me wanting, I shall tell my present thoughts: I think it fit your ladyship crave a pas from Monk to send on to your lord, who you hear is a prisoner; and it is fit the letter be civill, and under your own hand. Send it to me, and I shall send a trumpet with it to Monk. For your fort in the Cumray, I fear the cost of it will outgo the profit; for in my judgment your ladyship must not now in the condition that fameli is in retier your self, but rather ask leave, both from the Committee of Esteats and Monk, to leeve whair you pleas with your ordinar famelie, whair you may haue best correspondence in doing your dewitie to your lord, and the rest of that fameli: so after you haue offered the Fort to the Committee of the shyr, if they will be at the chairg, if not, you and they both may offer it to be disposed off as the Committee thinks fit; but in my judgment it wil be better for you that it were demolisched, and theis things in it, I mean guns and omonition, secoored; for if you get a protection, it will secoor your other stuf. Howsoever, in all theis I

leave your ladyship to advyse with other friends, who knows the condition of your affairs best, and whatsoever your ladyship resolves shall haue my best concurrance; for in every thing I shall stryve to approove myself your ladyships most affectionat cusin and servant,

Inverraray, 23 7br. ARGYLL.

For my Lady Montgomerie.

Lady Montgomerie to the Marquis of Argyll, 25th September [1651].

196. My lord — I receiued your lordships letter, and esteims my selfe in a singular way obleidged vnto your lordship for your faithful and free advyce; especially at such a tyme quhen it hath pleased the Lord to remove far from me my nearest relations; and I hope your lordship wil not be offended though I trouble you with this returne. I have herwith sent a letter to Monk, as your lordship desired me. I entreat your lordship may send your letter in my favors with it, and that it may be dispatched as soone as your lordship conveniently can; for I know not quhat may be my lords case for the present, nor how prejudicial delayes may prove to him. As for your lordships advyce concerning this fortification, the Comittie of the shyre is not now in any capacitie to meet for any thing I know; therfor I most humbly intreat your lordship to offer it in my name to the Comittie of Estaits, to be disposed of by them as they shal think fit; and lykwyse to crave leave of them that I may goe with my family to any place of the kingdome quher I may have the most convenient residence and correspondence with my lord; and if they granting liberty, that your lordship wold give me your advyce quhat way the lyk liberty may be obtained from Monk; and if your lordship could obtaine it togither with the pass, it wold be my earnst disire, both in respect that it would prevent delayes, as also becaus I am vnacquanted with the forme of drawing up such a licence. I must be troublsome to your lordship in thes things, tho I doubt nothing of your lordships favor that yee wil not think it any trouble, considering the sad and afflicted condition of this family, and that ther is none upon whose advyce and judgment I or they doeth so much rest as upon your lordships. I shal weary your lordship no further, but only add that I am . . .

My lord, if your lordship think it necessar that the servants name quhom I am to send to my lord be put in the pass, it is Hugh Baylie, his old servant; but I had rather a roome for the name were left blank in the pass, if so it may be had.

Lady Montgomerie to General Monck.

Sep. 25, [1651].

197. Right honorable — Being informed that my Lord Montgomerie, my husband, is now a prisoner in England, and having heard of your civilities to others in the lyk case, I am the more imboldned to desire and intreat your favor, that I may have a pass for a servant quhom I may send to visit him; the doing wherof shal be esteimed a singular favor by, etc.

For Lievtennant General Monk.

The Marquis of Argyll to Lady Montgomerie, 27th September [1651.]

198. Madame — According to your ladyships command, I haue dispatched your letter to Monke; and presented your desyr concerning that fort lykways; but since the Committee are adjurned to Boot the 8 of 8br, in my humbll opinion your ladyship may see what that meeting produces befor you doe any thing in it; and then in that place, God willing, I shall be mor abll to give you my positive advyce as becumeth your ladyship's cusin and servant,

Rosneith, 27 7ber. ARGYLL.

For the Lady Montgomerie.

General Monck to the Marquis of Argyll, 30th September 1651.

199. My lord — I haue receaved your letter by your trumpeter, and am sorry that it lyes not in my power to graunte your desyres therein exspressed; the Parliament of England haueing passed an acte to the contrary. But if the lady be pleased to write a letter to her husband, and to send it to me, I shall take care to send it with safetie; and for him to apply him selfe, either to the Counsell of State, or my Lord Generall, to gett leave for one of his servants to come to him, and to bring with him such necessaryes as the lord himselffe shall haue occasion for; which I conceaue is his best and shurest way. Haueing nothing else at present, I onely subscribe my selfe

Your humble servant,

Dundee, Sep. 30, 1651.

For the right honourable the Lord Marquess of Argyle. These.

George Monck

The same to the Lady Montgomerie, 30th September 1651.

200. Madam — I receaved your letter inclosed in the Marquess of Argyles. I am sorry it lyes not in my power to graunte you your desyres therein expressed; the Parliament of England haueing passed an act to the contrary, that noe Scotchman shall haue that libertie, without haueing a pass from the Counsell of State, or from my Lord Generall. But if your ladyship wilbe pleased to write a letter to your husband, and to send it mee, I shall take care to send it with safetie; and for him to gett leave from either the Counsell of State, or the Lord Generall, for one of his servants to come out of Scotland to him, and to bring with him such necessaryes as the lord himselfe shall find occasion for; which favour I beleiue they will not deny him.

I am your ladyshipps most humble servant,

Dundee, Sep. 30, 1651. GEORGE MONCK.

These for the Lady Mary Leshley — Present.

The Marquis of Argyll to the same, 9th October [1651.]

201. Madam — I send your ladyship herewith the answer of your ladyships letter, with my own, and I see no remeid for your ladyship in theis things, but to doe as Monke advyss; for no mor can be had nor they pleas to grant. I shall be readie to receave your farder commands; and in every thing, so far as I can, shall mak appear that I am your ladyships affectionat cusin and servant,

Rothesay, 9th 8br [1651]. ARGYLL.

For my Ladie Montgomerie.

Lady Margaret Douglas, Marchioness of Argyll, to the same, 22nd October 1651.

202. Madame — I receavit thir inclosit letters with my lords servant, who was sent to Munck; bot fearing least your ladyship stand in neid of them, I have sent them alongs with this bearer at the nearest, my lord being this day gone to Kintyre. I most crave your ladyships pardoun for borrowing of another hand; my health being such for the present that I am hardlie able to writt. Bot wherin I can doe your ladyship any service, there shal be nane readier to expres themselfe,

Madame, your ladyships affectionat cusein and servant,

Margaret Douglas

Inverarey, 22 October 1651.

Let this present my service to my Lady Kenmore, and tell her her nice is on the way of recoverie, I bles God.

For my honorable cusein, the Lady Montgomerie.

Lady Montgomerie to the Earl of Linlithgow, September 1651.

203. My lord — I humblie thank your lordship for the paines you have taken in these particulars I was bold to trouble you with; and as your lordship hath begun not only to be my freind in them, bot also an agent, I hope your lordship wil continue; and with the bearer I intreat to have your lordships resolution als soon as can be, not knowing the hazard of delayes. I have comunicat my mynd at length to Sir James Montgomery, and so wil trouble you no further; only beleive that I am, my lord, your lordships servant.

[September 1651.]

The Earl of Linlithgow to Mary Lady Montgomerie, 27th September 1651.

204. Madam — Your ladyship meay be konfident that quhat is in my pouer, ayther by aduis or any otheruais, shall not be vainting quhain your ladyship shall be pleaised to command me. As for my opinion for the present, I think it ver the best to taik sum cours quhairby your ladyship may return to your oun hous. As for your sonne, I am confident he vill be in no deainger. I kan seay no mor for the present vntill I return from Endereray.

Madam, your ladyships affectionat cousing and houmble seruant,

Linlithgow,

Rosneth, 27 September 1651.

I shall vait vpon your ladyship at my return.
For the ryght honorable the Lady Mongomreay.

Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, his father [1651].

205. My lord — The reason why your lordship is not so oft aquainted of our proceedings as I wold, is becaus your lordships horsemen doth not attend heir as they oucht. Ther is one Grahame, who after the wreitting of my letter did let it ly two dayes besyd me; and when they come keepes them up lykwyse. Since my last to your lordship, ther is nothing past; save only the enemy this morning fell upon a house called Reidhall, within two myles of our army, and storm'd it, and after two houres debate gained it; ther being such a strong pass betwixt our army and it, that we could not releave them; neither could we advance for ther cannon, having all ther army standing upon strong ground ready to second them. We are informed this night ther is two bregads of the enemy march't towards Craigmiller this night; wherfor we have comanded a party of foot to it, with two regiments of horse to Westerdidistoun, who is to watch ther, and to send ane hundreth horse to the house to attend upon the enemy's waggons and provision, which is to come from Muslebruch. If they resolve to storme the house, we are to advance with our wholle army towards them, and second the parties: I pray the Lord give us good success. I thought fitt to aquaint your lordship that the shyre of Perth cryes mightily out against your lordships regiment; and have profered to furnish the army with two thousand bolls of meall, if they will remove your lordship's regiment. Ther is many lykwyse for the bringing them over to purge them; wherfor your lordship wold see that ye have none but such as ye can be ansuerable for. Ther is some who spares not to vont publickly that ther is no need of a guard; and that His Majestie wold rather be content to quyt them then have the country oppressd. Thes things I thought fit to aquaint your lordship of, that ye might be resolved what course to take therin. However, I should not wish that your lordship should be discouradged at any of thes expresiones; but doo your duety, and stand by your right.

I have receaved that money from Boghall which your lordship sent, as I did expresse in a former; which if your lordship have not receaved, I shall informe your lordship more particularly by the nixt. So wishing the Lord to blisse his Majestie and all his Court, and to prosper your lordship in all your interpryses, I rest your lordships most obedient sone to serve yow,

R. MONTGOMERIE.

If nothing occure befor Munday, we resolve to use some active way to ingadge the enemy to fight; which I conceive wil be, by marching towards Edmestoun and Muslebrugh, and storming them.

For his most honorable lord, the Earle of Eglintoun. These are.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to Sir George Maxwell of Netherpollock, 16th November 1653.

206. Right worshipfull — I haue receaued your leter here at Barwick, puting me in rememberance that yow spoke to me for removeing your dam of the Earnmilne. I think yow are not forgetfull that I did refuse your desire, and could not condiscend to it. I did lykewise refuse my Lady Maxwell, of good memorie, when she desired it of me, in regard of my seen disadvantage in it; and now I admyre of your procedor in the condition I am now in, that yow should intend any such thing as the makeing up of that dam to my prejudice: truely I would not have expected such unkyndlie nightbourhood at your hands, in showing such intentions now when I am in this condition. I haue ordained my servant, William Home, to stop your building of it by ordor of law; and if that will not do it, I shall take the best course I can afterwards, if it shall please God to spare me dayes. Truely, as for the courtesie you alleadge that I receaued from your predecessor at the building of my park dyke, I am sure I gaue him as good as I got, for that dyke is builded upon the back of the march; which is well knowne: and as for the courtesie yow procured to my tennents in Eastwood, in freeing them from paying corne and strae to that Garrison in Glasgow, I cannot but thank yow, and I doubt not but that they will be thankfull for it; whosoever showes any courtesie to me now, I shall stryue to requit it afterwards.

But for any courtesie I haue receaued as yet from any of my nightbours is but very small; and as for that companion, John Yong, upon whom you seame to turne ouer the blame, I shall do my best to be eauen with him when occasion offers; and if you regard my nightbourhood, I hop you will let all things stand in the same condition they were in before my restraint. I assure you I can not but resent wrongs done to me now in the condition I am in; and will indeauore to repaire them so farr as possible. In the meantyme, remember my seruice to your lady, and wishing you all health, I rest your affectionat freend,

Barwick, 16 Nouember 1653. EGLINTOUNE.

For the right worshipfull Sir Georg Maxwell of Neatherpollock.

John seventh Earl, afterwards Duke of Rothes, to Hugh Lord Montgomerie.

Edin^{r}. 8 of Feb. 1656.

207. My lord — Your seruant ceam most sesonablie; for it was admayriet at by all your frinds that the taym was past and nothing heird of thos wreatings which you haue nou sent, and which I am uerie houpfull will prouf satisfactorie. Ther ar seuerall particolars which I supos my Ladie Belheiuin uill wriat to you conserning. On of the chif I beluie uill be conserning the jouls that ar in pand; and I du not cnou if my ladie uill ureat anie thing of it or not. Bot I heir my Lord Torfichin his frin is dead; and troulie I am informid my lord's isteat is in a good condision. Therfor if ther his bein anie thing proposed to you by anie of his frinds, I think your lordship uill dou ueall to giue them encuregment. Bot this is uith an absholat submission to what your lordship thinks fiting to be dun. This is all the troubell you shall resaue at present from my dear lord, your most affectionat brother and seruant,

ROTHES.

For the right honob^{le} my Lord Montgumrie.

Major-General Robert Montgomerie to Colonel James Montgomerie, his brother, 19th October 1658.

208. Dear brother — Two letters I heave receaved from you this day of ane old date; nevertheless this seven years I had not more contentment then to understand that all friends wer alyve, and that ther wes not some new occasion of greif fallen out; which I verie much feared, because I had not of a long time heard from Scotland. Our eldest brothers condition is verie sad; Lord help it, and restore him to health. I wreat long agoe my opinion to him to reconceal with his sonne, and to take some course that his actions might not extend to the farder grief and ruine of the familie, by his beeing deserted and left to goe on to the fantesies of his oune brains, and the subtility of his allaye, in whom ther is no trust. As to the great offers of consangquinity wee have by these two matches for the yong people, I shoud not dislike it; bot I am of opinion that the other hes both privat and publike designes to advance his interest and ambition, the trouth wherof will apear may be shortly; and therbie will, however kaieses chance to fall, serve himself to the best advantage; pray God direct you that are ther with wisdome: for my part, it is so misterious as I shall say no more, not beeing safe for you to explain myself as I wold; onlie I wish that friends may be so wyse, if these matches goe on, as to lett the parties themselfs onlie be interest in the strict alliance till they sie farder the event of affairs. As to your bussiness, I am sorie it hes so slow a progress; and that hir best friends will not ioyne in securitie for the portion, without which your friends hes no reason to assent to it, if it be not to yeild ther consents to satisfie your love more then any thing else; which I hope is not as yett of such a hight that admits not with the convenience of a tocher good. For my part I am bound, if I wer capable, to doe everie thing for the accomplisment of your interest and intention more then ther wer my oune; and will doe so as long as I live. I had a lettir from Patrik Murray,

wherin he showes me, att your desire, he had wreaten to one Ogill att Paris to ansuer me on or two hundreth crounes upon band. This letter of Mr. Murrays I had inclosed in one from Monsieur Hebrune, whom I knou not; bot I am of opinion that to take money upon band is not the best course: however, it hes been bot buffles of winde, for that Ogill will not doe any thing, althought for my part till this day I knew nothing of it. I am already somewhat indebted to Francis Kinloch, who offers to ansuer me what I have a minde for; but I have shunned to make up as yett a finall bargaine with him. I will, in order to my intentions, be forced to be at Paris in two months; wher liklie I may conclude, not only of affaire bot all others; for money of my oune I had none for this sex weeks, so that constrained to worke for bread. The Protectors death is no newes to us, and of your good affection to receave a new on. When I come to Paris, you may expect that I shall search ane occasion to show of all affaires to the full, and more then ordinarie; and in the mean time shall neglect no neccessar oportunity to you that I am as much as you can wish, dear brother, your most faithfull and most assured servant,

Tours, 19 October 1658. R. MONTGOMERIE.

What I doe not say hear is in my father letter. Only my humble service to our sister and Ladie Kenmure, and continouall friendship to Buntin. Poore Hew Shawes death is soroufull to me, and for whom I wold haue done all that in me lay to express a gratefull aknowledgment of his respect. My service to William Hoome. God send him health and confort.

[1] As for my sister, I think your lordship hes no reason, if hir affection be absolutlie bent that way, to hinder hir; bot ther ar manie reasons that your lordship aught not to be to much concerned in macking of such a matche as may tend to a dangerous consequenc; for he is on that goes beyond my reach, and of whom I will not adwenture to explain my opinion, not knaueing into whoes hand this may fall.

For the honorable Collonell James Montgomerie.

The same to the same.

Tours, 27 October 1658.

209. Dear brother — By this post I haue receaved a large letter touching all affairs, bot without date, or the place wher it wes wreaten; which, if you please, remember another time. As to these contracted and fyanced parties, I wish much success to them; and shall say no more of this bussiness, hauing by a former said more then now I think wes requisite. I will speak to your affaire, wherin I assure you I think myself ane hundreth times more concerned, both for affection and respect; insomuch as seeing the person hir self whom yea love is vertueous and perfect in your eyes, only to the matter of security, which I confess to be ane great reason and obstacle, yett not of that consequence to sequestrat you from the reasons that may lead

[1] This part of the postscript is in the handwriting of Colonel James Montgomerie, and was probably intended for his father.

you to live a happie and contented lyfe, nor your friends to be wanting to contribute with all ther pouer, assent and encouragement, to giue you satisfaction; seeing all your undertakings hes been euer to the credit and honnour of all that belongs to you. For my part, I could heartily resigne you all the interest I haue in the world if it be woorth offering; for I am resolved att present to lead a single life so long as I live, which I aprehend will not be long: nether doe I expect to inheritt any patrimonie in the course of my dayes; all I looke after is for a present subsistence, that, so long as I am any wyse capable, I might put myself in imployment, which I am resolved to doe upon all worldly hazards that is honorable before the next campagnie; and only I desire that our father wold wreat a letter of assurance or credit to Francis Kinloch, that upon such terms as you could have mony from any other, he may furnish me, and be assured of payment; for this he hes often offered to me, and is willing to furnis as long as he hes it, and is most respectiue and civill in every thing relates to me. If this be agreable to our father and you, I shall not abuse that benevolence and trust I desire; and if that be douted, limitt it to our fathers pleasure, for this motion I make because I iudge presently money is not to be had; and that expectation you had that Patrike Murray wold furnish me by Mr. Hepbron is ineffectuall; and I wold rather have my supplies by Mr. Kinloch, because I am already a little ingaged to him, and that all my affaires is conducted by him; so that, reserving my perfyte obedience and submission to our father, this is my humble desire: and in the meantime, till I be resolved from you, I minde to imploy no other then Frances Kinloch, who till then will affoord what I stand in need of. As to the result of that consultation, I ever thought it all could be done; therfor my earnest intreaty is that both our portions may be ioined in one in your name as absolutlie bestowed, wholly and solly upon you, and ther neads nather any bakeband or more trouble, for I will not want so long as you haue it: this I doe freely assent to as is cleer ther is not any so good or safe course in the world. Pray you present my humble deuty, blissing, and service to our father; for I cannott haue tyme to wreat to him at present, so as yea may make knowen to him the contents hearof: my humble service to our eldest brother his ladie and children; Lord God assist and confort him! Att my beeing att Angers, I mett with on Mr. Archbald Cambell, who, because the name is not much respected in France, calls himself Murray; he is on hes improven himself hudglie in France; he is of good parts, cariage and merite, and on who for a governeur to any yong nobleman wer as fitt as any can be, haveing the French tongue att liberty. If my Lord Winton, or any yong lord else, have ane minde to come for France, I thought it necessare to aquent you for ther advantage; he beeing on also that honors our familie, yett to everie common person he will not inbarke. When you please to favour me the ansuer to this and all other particulars, it will be most acceptable to, dear brother,

Your most faithfull and oblidged servant,

R. MONTGOMERIE.

My service to my dear friend Hew Douglase, Mr. Forgushill, and Williame Hoome.

For the honorable Collonell James Montgomerie.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home, his steward, 21st October 1658.

210. William — I have takine this occasione to show yow that there is ane French monsiour, called ane Marques, to be wast on of thir dayis, and is to be heir; and we hear he is to mak on of my Lord Glencarnes sones his byre, and will tak him with him to France; therfor ze sall cawse send waist, after sight heirof, thrie of the fatest beastis that is in the park, and that with better boyes than thei send last; for thei sent bot hyred boyes last, who knew not the way home againe, and thes bot abuse our service, and it is the officiars fault; and cause try for a suckeing weall that is fourtein or twentie dayis ould, if it can be haid; for I think thes strangers will be heir this weik, or the beginning of the nixt at farthest; and cause send to the fouller, and sie if he can gett moor fowles or plivers, or partridges, or wood cokis, or any wyld fowles, and cause heast them wast: and sie for as much cloth as will be ane clock and a cott to me, of this cloth which ze sall receive the swach of; and buy it als cheap as ze can, of aither of this two cullors. I pray you be diligent in getting moneies; ze know we have neid of it, both for principalls and annwlrentis; and let me know of your good health. I rest zour loveing master,

Eglintoun, 21 October 1658. EGLINTOUN.

Ze must cause send wast ane stone of great reasines thats new come home, and half ane stone good plumdamose, and half a stone of figg, and half a stone of small reasinges of cure: what we neid forder we sall advertise you.

For my right assured frend William Hoome, late bylie of Glasgow, at Egilshame.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Eglintoun, to William Home at Eagleshame, 5th November 1658.

211. William: I receaved your letter, and the candle kistis, and your creill with the glasses; bot I am sorie to heir that ze ar not in better health. I received John Lawder's letter, and Margarets accompts. I sie ther is many seikeing silver. I pray God that ye get it, that they may get satisfactione; for I sall be als willing to give it, as they sall desyre it if I can have it. Therefor, be diligent to get in all that can be haid with you, and we sall be as carefull to doe our uttermost heir as can be; for Thomas Thomsone hes not gottine in ane hundr pund Scottis zet; and for Cloberhill, William Gastoun is making fast for him, and I think sall have it in readinesse to him; and ze know that my Lord Twaddill must be takine course with also, by all the accountis I have received from you; and if ze can try out, or gett John Lawder's sowme; I wold gladly have him payed. Our vexationes and burdines is a great trowbill. I pray God to comfort me, and to bring me out of them, and to give you health and strenth; and if ze think it fitt that I sould come east, advertise me, and I sall come for two dayis; for we are mightilie burdined with our freinds, which is great fashrie to me; for Gariltoune beis heir either this night or the morrow, and if ze

can gett up any of the teind cornes, gett it and send it heir to our horses that is resting. Let me heir of your good health. I rest yor loveing maister,

Eglintone, 5 November 1658. EGLINTOUN.

Cause send this ather letter to Cloberhill to come heir and receive his money, and cause get half ane barrill of good herine to be sent to Sir John Seatoune.

For my right assured freind William Hoome, late byllie of Glasgow, at Egilshame.

Major-General Robert Montgomerie to his brother, Colonel James Montgomerie.

Mans, 19th November 1659.

212. My dear brother — I shall be in great paine till I hear from you; for ther is ane letter I have wreaten to you that I long to hear if it be come to your hands; and till I be asseured that it be come safe to your hands I will wreat no newes. . . . I have wreaten our father of a ladie that is pleased to have ane estime for me above all others, and hes showen him manie particulars, praying him to show you the letter. If it come to passe, it is a strange providence of God; bot the freinds hear of any person is as particular as in any cuntry; so I dout not bot ther will be deficulties; bot, however, I have all the asseurance of hir affection I can wish for vnder hir hand; bot, that which is on of the main things, I am not yet fullie asseured of hir portion; and shee is, as most of all the Frenches, resolved to have hir mothers consent. On thing pleases me, that shee is given much to all sort of vertueu and no wayes proud; notwithstanding that shee has spiritt in aboindance. What I resolve, our father and yourself shall be aquented of; so spare not your commands and advise; for yea may be sure I will studie yor contentment as much as is possible for me, and be readie to the last drop of my blood to approve the duty that becometh, dear brother,

Your most oblidged and verie faithfull servant,

R. MONTGOMERIE.

Make my most humble and perpetuall service to my dear sister, your ladie.

For the honorable Colonell James Montgomerie.

Margaret M'Donald, wife of Colonel James Montgomerie of Coilsfield, to her husband.

Eglintoun, the 13 of Agust 1660.

213. Deare hart — I am werie glad to heare that ye ar in good health. I pray God continew it. I wonder verie much to heare you say that ye haue recaued but to leters from me; for indead I omitted no occasioun but twise. My lord write, and neuer told me till his leters wer gon. But if I war where I could haue as good occasion as you haue, I should be mor trubelsom to you with my leters then you ar to me with yors. I wonder you haue not hard from my lord; for he went from this the 16 July, and shew me he write to you he would stay at Beltoun till you come to him. But it seims you ar not weiried to stay there. I wish it war so with

me to. Howeuer, I thinke ye wold doe weall to heast to him, and see if ye can preuent his jorney. I shall trubell you no mor at present, but restis yours till death,

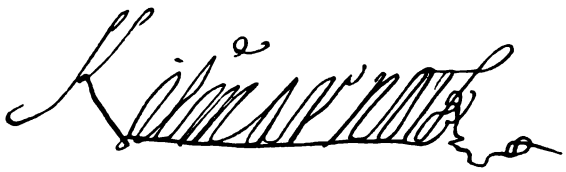
I pray present my most humble seruice to your brother. MARGARET M'DONALD.

For the right honorabll Colonel James Montgomerie.

William, first Earl of Kilmarnock, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, 12th May 1663.

214. Right honourable — When my Lord Chancellowr and I wear last at Kilmarnok, on of my men wronged a brother of Grainge, whom I commanded my baliffes to conveine befor them, and, according to the offence, so to inflict a punishment; which was done accordingly, and the offender feynned in my court: notwithstanding, I am informed that your lordships baliff deput of Conyghame did call my man befor him, and upon his non compirance had ischewed ane decreit, and charged him to mak peyment within so many dayes. I dar almost confidently belive this to be done without yowr lordships knowledge: however, I thoght best to acquent yowr lordship with it befor hand, howping yowr lordship will command yowr deput not to insist; for I resolve, what my predecessors have been in vse of as their priviledge and right, I will maintaine to my power; and I am howpfull yowr lordship will not incroch wpone any of my right or possessione, which may disturb the nighbourly frindschip which is desired to be entertained by, my lord,

Your lordships humble servant,



Badinheath, the 12 of May 1663.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglintoune.

Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, [?] to His Grace the Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Montgomristoune, 23d Nov. 1663.

215. May it pleass your grace — Thos dew acknowledgments being first premitted wch I owe to the multitude of your extraordinary favouris cast upon me, I cannot but confess that since my last to your grace I haue a gret loss in the death of my nobill and generous cussigne, Mont-Alexander. And it is more nor dowbled in that he was a gentilman indewed with all such qualifications as made him usfull to his kinge and countrie, both in peace and warr. Bot I hope as he was euir readie to extend all, were it to the sacrifficinge of his life, in his princes service; soe it will pleass his Majestie to cast a gratious and fauorable aspect upon his posteritie, especially my younge lord. And your grace haueing it in your power both to obtaine from his Majestie

in his favouris, and to doe him good your selfe, I wholly rely upon and beg your grace's favour for him, who being the son of such a father, I dowbt not bot one day he will remember all of benefite or fauor put upon him, and haue resentments sutable to the qualitie of his recepts. In the mean tyme, iff his Majesties intrest in these partes call for persons of fidelitie and activitie to be subsarviant to your grace's designes, I doe, with much confidence, recommend to your grace my late lord's brother in law, William Montgomerie, Esq., son and aire to Sir James, who your grace knows was much in fauor with his Majestie and his royall father upon the accompt of his constant adheringe to, and great sufferings for the royall intrest. I knou he is principled truly loyall. Hes parts are more nor ordinarie; beinge, besides what he owes to nature, much polished in his educatione at home and abroad. Though occation yet neuer offered (being bot about scooles dureinge our trowbles), to bringe them one the stage. His first essayes his bean in his princes sarvice in the pursute of some of the laite plotters to his kingdome by his information to me, and had bene very successful if bot a litle more earlie, consideringe he lyes upon the shore towards this kingdome, where, by resson of his intrest in me, he hes a multitude of freinds; and the respect he hes from all Montalexander's relations, being on of his neerest kinsmen. Your graces countinance will exceadinglie fitt him for imployment, whether it be for intelligence, ore any other trust he shall be honored with. I know he was a grett sufferer upon his Majesties accompt; most of his lands beinge given away by the late usurper, which he was necessitated for a present livlyhood to repurchase with debentures; and if it was not that by this I more mynd the good of his Majesties sarvice then the restoringe of a kinsman, I would beg of your grace that he might be remembred in what dealinge of these lands shall be at his Majestie's disposall, and are to be allowed for reprysall to the value of what he gaue out for the redemption of his own. It will render him the more able to sarve your grace. Bot I know his own accomplishments, upon tryell, will recomend him more to your grace then my pen. I therfor leaue him upon that generositie wher with I know your grace wseth to gratifie men of merite; and shall add no more bot to assure your grace that what of respect or fauor is done him, I will take it as done to your grace's most humble and devoted servitor.

Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun.

Portmore, Decemb. 7, '63.

216. My honourd lord — Your lordship was pleas'd to recommend to me the case and person of Mr. Peebles, who, though he liv'd three yeares in my diocese, yet is a very great stranger to me, excepting by report; for he never vouchsaf'd to come to me. However, your lordships recommendation of him to me is so effectual, that in what is in my power your lordship hath power to command me. But I assure your lordship he did not goe from us upon the stock of his nonconformity; neither was the hand of his bishop at all upon him; but because, upon the discovery of the late horrid conspiracy in Ireland, some of his brethren were found to be

too farre interested in it, and the others were justly suspected, the Lord Lieutenant and Council thought fitt to secure divers of them; yet with so much gentlenesse and mercy, that it was left to their choice whether they would stay in Ireland or no. If I mistake not, Mr. Peebles would not appeare, nor come in, but of his accord went away. Now for his returne hither, (I speake to a person of honour and great reason), your lordship knowes I have nothing to doe in it, unlesse your lordship shal please to command me to represent it to his Grace, my Lord Duke of Ormond; which command, if I shal receive from your lordship I will most faithfully obey it. My lord, I wish to your lordship all honour and prosperity, and am, my honourd lord, your lordships most faithful humble servant,

Jerem: Dunensis

To the right honourable the Earle of Eglintoun at Mongomeriestoun. These humbly present.

Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, 27th June 1664.

217. Right honorable and my deare lord — There is one Mr. Alexander Gregory (who was presented by the late Lord Chancelour) speedily to be admitted to the kirke of Draighorne. He went thither with a resolution to have made his application to your lordship, that by your countenance and favour he might have had ane opportunity to give the people a probationall sermon; but finding your lordship absent from that place, mett with nothing but opprobrious and contumelious speechs. This, with some other disorders in the west, being reported to the Privy Counsell, they were pleased to allow me liberty to crave the assistance of some of the souldiers, in order to the planting of that country, and to requyre the commander in chiefe to send them to such places as I, with advyce of the orderly ministers, should appoynt. However, finding that your lordship hath a great interest in this parish of Draighorne, I am resolved to send none thither till I speake with your lordship, only that I must begg (in regard the young mans edict is to be served next Lords day), that your lordship would be pleased to send some of your servants thither, to perswade them not to affront the laws, and runne themselves into danger, but at least to yeeld that obedience which the law requyres, and is necessary for the peace of the kingdome; with certification that if they obey not your lordships command, a more severe course will be taken. If any of the souldiers be ordered to the countrey, as I thinke they will, I shall entreate them to follow your lordships advyce; of whose countenance and favour no man is more confident then, my deare lord,

Your humble and obedient servant,

Glasgow, Junii 27, 1664.

For the right honourable and my very noble lord,
the Earle of Eglintoun.

Alex: Glasguen'

The same to the same, 11th August 1664.

218. My deare lord — Since I had the honour to see your lordships last, I have had a very bad account of your friends and vassalls at Draighorne; and must say (if it be as the report goes), they deserve to be made examples to others. I like it the worse that the minister hath not yett beene with me to give ane account of their obedience as he promised; and I am credibly informed by others, that the young man is wnder a great consternation and much discouraged, and resolves rather to remove then complaine. However, I shall not say much till I receave a more exact account of all. Onely I thought it my duety to acquaint your lordship with what I heard, before I tooke any other course, and to entreate your lordship to consider of what consequence it may be to have it reported that persons in whom your lordship is interested, and for whom yow have wndertaken, should so transgresse and affront the laws; and how much it will reflect wpon me to winke at your lordships friends and relations, when others for lesser offences are severely proceeded against. I am bound, for many reasons, to tender your lordship honour more then others, which makes me wse this freedome with your lordship; and shall never be wanting to give yow the most ample testimonies I can of that respect which is due to yow from, my lord, your very humble and faithfull servant,

Glasgow, Aug. 11, 1664. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 3rd January 1665.

219. My deare lord — I find, by the report I have receaved since I came home, that our affaires are in a worse condition in the Presbytery of Irwine then in any part of the diocese; and therefor I must make it my humble request to your lordship to present a second minister to Irwin, a minister to Dunlop, and one to Kilbirnie, as soone as conveniently yow can. The bearer hereof is recommended to me by some of the masters of our college, and will come (as I suppose) recommended to your lordship by your sons tutor. If your lordship thinke fitt to present him to any of your vacancies, I shall give order to enter him immediately wpon his tryalls. I have heard severall complaints from your lordships cittadell at Aire; first, that the ministers there have not given that satisfaction which they promised to your lordship; and for removing this complaint I thinke it will be convenient for them to write, either to the brethren of the exercise or to me, assuring either them or me that they will keepe no conventicles, and that they will attend ordinances. The second complaint is, that there are many very loose and dissolute persons imployed in your lordships manufacture, whose conversation is very scandalous. If your lordship will be pleased to advyse and counsell them to be more regulare and orderly, I thinke your order or command will prevaile more with them then the most severe course we can take; and I judge it not convenient for ws to doe any thing that may disoblige your lordship, or discourage your

workemen; and therefor I shall remitt the consideration of these particulars to your lordship, and only beg the continuance of your respect and favour with, my lord,

Your very humble and affectionate servant,

Glasgow, Jan. 3, 1665. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 11th January 1665.

220. My deare lord — My only errand to the west at this tyme was to plant as many vacancies as I could, and to put into execution the order of the Commission for levying 20 shillings a day of those that withdraw from ordinances. I am very sorry that I have done so little in the first; but have this comfort, that I can say it is not my fault; and I hope, when I come to represent to my Lord Commissioner what I have done, his Grace will be pleased not to impute the vacancies (which are too many) to my remissenes or neglect; and I am confident your lordship will allow me your assistance in the speedy planting of your vacancies, as I begd in my last. I heare your lordship hath receaved a bad character of Mr. Francis Baillzie, whom I offered to your lordship in my last, which hath made me more inquisitive after him; and if I may beleeve our rector, professor, and the brethren before whom he past his tryalls, he is not so weake a person as your lordship seems to apprehend. However, I am resolved to heare him (if God permitt) to-morrow, and then I shall be better able to give my opinion of him. I have now at last gotten some lists of such persons as withdraw from ordinances, signed by the ministers of the respective parishes; and in obedience to my Lord Commissioner his Grace, and the Commissions order, have signed this enclosed order, which (being under your lordships hand as sheriff, and mine as bishop of the diocese), will be sufficient for Sir James Turner, or any other officer of the militia, for levying their severall fines. If there be any person delated in any of these rolls in whom your lordship hath any interest, lett me know it by your lordships answere, and such favour shall be showne them as your lordship shall prescribe. I begin to pitty your lordship, as foreseeing that your lordship hath to doe with a very froward and treacherous generation, by whom your lordship or I are like to have little credite; for they will not performe halfe of that which they promise, or which the law requires, and which is expected and desired by my Lord Commissioner his Grace; but it will be convenient for us to doe what becomes faithfull and loyall subjects, and what your lordship shall advise or appoynt shall be observed by, my lord,

Your humble and obliged servant,

Glasgow, Jan. 11th, 1665. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same, 13th January 1665.

221. My deare lord — I know your lordship will pardon me for all the trouble I give yow by my frequent applications. I have no other in the west on whom I can lay any part of the weight

or burthen of our affaires, but only your lordship. I have heard that young man whom your lordship mentioned in your last since I wrote my former, and must say (what ever the Bishop of the Iles judgement be), in my poore opinion he is preferable to the person whom he recommended to my Lord Cochrane; however, since your lordship seems not to encline that way, your will shall be a law to me; and rather then your lordship faile of one for that place, I will send your lordship one Mr. Raite, whom I had designed for another charge. Since I sealed wp the other lists which I sent to your lordship, I receaved two more, one from Machlen and another from Affleck, which I have sent back to the ministers to be amended, and so offered to your lordship, that a warrand for them also may be signed and transmitted by your lordship to me. Though the stipends of Dunlop and Eglisham doe in justice belong for this last yeare to the ministers that went out, yett I thinke your lordship may very well present; and the persons intrant have no reason to complaine if they gett the whole yeare for which they serve. These that succeed to dead persons, and are bound to allow annats, are in a farr worse condition. I intend (God willing) in the beginning of the next week to returne to Edinburgh, and desire to receave your lordships commands before I returne, which shall be very exactly and punctually observed and obeyed by, my deare lord, your lordships most humble and affectionate servant,

Glagow, Jan. 13, 1665. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglintoun.

Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, to Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow.

Eglintoun, 27 February 1665.

222. May it please your grace — As I am really afected in your afliction, by the death of your hopfull son, so I am confident that yow, whose eminent station doth cary yow to be exemplaire in the exersise of all christian vertews, will endevour now in this chiefly which the Lord's present dispensation doth call you even in christian patience, couradge and humble submission to God, who can doe His poor fraill cretures no wronge, and can easily mak vp ony seeminge hurt by giveinge us the equivalent, zea much more satisfaction and contentment in Himself then what wee have lost in our choisest cretur comforts. But I crave mercy for presuminge to wryte to you one such a subject, who, I know, is soe weel acquanted with thes sweet cordialls of comfort, edefieinge lessons of instructiones, and most equitable precepts for direction, which the Spirit of God hath laid vp in Scriptur for one in such a case: Only my afection and respect to your grace hath constraned me to goe this far (it may be thought) out of my statione, that you may therby know yow are in a gret missur simpathized with, by

Your grace most oblidged humble servant,

Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of Glasgow, to Hugh, seventh Earl of Eglintoun, 6th April 1665.

223. My deare lord — I have had very many and ample testimonies of your lordships wndeserved

respect and favour since first I had the honour of your lordships acquaintance; but never any of which I was more sensible, or with which I was more satisfied then your lordships last most christian and compassionate letter, which spake your lordship as much a christian and a person of true honour as any I have mett with in my tyme: and I must thankfully confesse to your lordship that it did very much asswage and mitigate my griefe, and promise that it shall lie by me as a pledge of your lordships respect, and ane evidence of my obligation to your lordship. I need not tell your lordship how much we are concerned in the planting of our vacancies, but especially those of Irwin, which is not the weakest presbytery we have, but am obliged to say that your lordships readines to plant Kilbride and Kilbirnie hath not only much strengthened my hands, but also encouraged me to offer another man to yow for the vacancy of Dunlop. He is a person who hath beene represented to me as a very painefull, pious and prudent young man; and if I could have gotten his owne and his Bishops consent sooner, I intended to have recommended him to your lordship for Kilbride. Now, at last, I have gained him to come over and have sent him to your lordship, that if your lordship be satisfied with him, and be not otherwise engaged, he may, with your lordships favour, either be settled there, or sent back to me to be otherwise disposed of; and what your lordship shall determine therein shall be a law to oblige, my lord, your lordships most faithfull and obedient servant,

Glasgow, Ap. 6, 1665. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglinton.

The same to the same, 29th December 1665.

224. May it please your lordship — My Lord Glencairne and Cochrane came hither yesterday, thinking to have mett with your lordship in this place, but did not any thing in that bussines, because of your lordships absence. They did desire to see a rentall of the parish and the ministers locality, which will be necessary to be produced before the decreet be altered. I could not perswade them to fall wpon the bussines, because they wanted your lordships concurrence; and I see not what can be done in it till your lordship and they find ane opportunity to meet. I have debated with my Lord Cochrane about the ministers stipend, and I thinke have convinced him that this change will not make the ministers condition better; for at most it is but a converting of one chalder of oats into meale which is intended, and for that three hundreth merks of money is to be converted into two chalders of meale; and I am sure, one yeare with another, it is much more for a ministers advantage to have part victuall and part money, then to have all either victuall or money: however, your lordships command shall very much determine me in this or any thing else yow are pleased to propose. I am very sorry your lordship should desire any thing of me which I cannot or dare not grant. That our ministers doe generally impute the dissatisfaction and peevish frowardnes of their people to the non conforme ministers that live among them, I beleeve your lordship doth sufficiently know; and some of them have had the confidence to tell me, that this act of counsell

(though severe enough) would not profite or availe them much, because of my lenity and enclination to indulge licences to persons that deserved them not; which hath made me resolve to grant none at all, but I leave all to the counsell and commissione: and even that one which I granted, I would willingly recall, if I could doe it with my credit; yett, when I have the happines to wait upon your lordship at Edinburgh, I shall give your lordship my best advyce and assistance in this particulare; and till that tyme there will be no danger, because the fourty dayes allowed them by act of Counsell will not be expired. I am resolved in this nor nothing else to move without my Lord Commissioner his Graces approbation; for since we are forced to give his Grace the trouble of all our complaints, it is very fitt we should not take wpon us to doe any thing that may occasion trouble to his Grace but by his Graces advyce and approbation: and I am confident your lordship will never desire me to doe any which might displease his Grace, or make him question the discretion or conduct of, my deare lord, your lordships most faithfull and obedient servant,

Glasgow, 10ber 29, 1665. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

For the right honourable and my very noble lord, the Earle of Eglintoun.

The same to the same.

Glasgow, Aug. 24, 1666.

225. My lord — Since I came home I have beene enquyring into the condition of our affaires in the west, and find there are still many deposed ministers neare to the place of your lordships residence, which I am affraid will at last doe some prejudice to your neighbours, and occasion that which otherwise may possibly be avoided; and therefor judged it my duety to beg of your lordship that some faire and moderate course may be taken for their removall, that neither your lordship may be further troubled with prosecuting the law against them, nor your friends damnified nor reflected wpon by their neighbourhood. I am also informed that the minister of Finnick, within your lordships jurisdiction, is, contrary to law, kept out of his house; which will be a very great prejudice to him, and occasion a complaint from that Presbytery; and in such cases I shall not willingly move without your lordships advyce and approbation: but to prevent all occasion of clamour, I think it will be convenient your lordship take it into your consideration, and interpose your authority for composing any difference that may be betweene the present incumbent and his predecessor. In those or any other particulars, wherein I am concerned within your lordships bounds, I shall obey your commands, and follow that rule which your lordship shall prescribe to,

My lord, your lordships humble and obliged servant,

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglinton. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

The same to the same.

Glasgow, 7ber 29, 1666.

226. My lord — The moderator of Irwine hath represented to me your lordships care and kindnes in redressing those particulars which I humbly recommended to your lordship, for which I doe very

heartily thanke yow; and I hope I shall perswade my Lord Commissioner his Grace to doe the like. It will be very much both for your lordships honour, the countreys advantage, and the ministers satisfaction, that the disorders of which we complaine should be removed rather by your lordships care then by a rougher hand; and if your lordship, and other persons of honour and interest, would use your authority, we would have little need to crave the assistance of souldiers; but our ministers meet with so many discouragements and difficulties that many of them begin to dispaire of remedy. I am very sorry that it was my misfortune to be absent when your lordships occasions drew yow that way; but am glad to hear that your journey hath wrought so good effects wpon your tenants at Eglisham. When I have ane opportunity to waite on your lordship, and to tell what observations are made, both here and elsewhere, upon our disorders in the west (which are supposed originally to spring from our disaffected ministers), yow will see some reason rather to pitty than blame, my lord, your lordships very humble and faithfull servant,

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglinton. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

The same to the same.

Glasgow, Octob. 1, 1666.

227. May it please your lordship — The earnest desire I have to plant those vacancies which are in the west, hath moved me to send the bearer hereof, Mr. James Lawson, to your lordship, to offer his service first to yow. If wpon conference with him, and tryall of his abilities and parts, your lordship shall thinke fitt to present him to Ardrossen or Beeth, I shall give him letters of transportation, or otherwise shall dispose of him another way, as your lordship shall advyse,

My lord, your lordships very humble and obedient servant,

For the right honourable, the Earle of Eglinton. ALEX. GLASCUEN.

Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Baronet, to John Todd, his gardener, 25th June 1665.

228. John Todd — In regard it hath pleasd God to send me another doughter, I desir you may send your wyf her on my litle gray neig. James Monteith will com alongst with her. Ye must not delay it, for my wyf will not be satisfyd till she be her; for she mynded to have non to foster the chyld bot your wyff. When it is tym to maw the orchard, caus Sanie Kech gett men to do itt, and the meadow also, when it is tym. I hop we will all be to you shortly, God willing. This is from your master,

Rossie, 25th Jun 1665.

Ye must furnish your wyf's expences her, and I shall pay her agen; for my wyff is to go west,

and all our famly, so soon as she is able to traveill, and ther is no nurs her will condescend to go west with us.

Let me know by this berar if I may expect John Brok to serve me agenst Mertimes, that if he com not to me, I may provyd myself otherwise.

For John Todd, gardiner at Skelmorlie.

Lady Margaret Montgomerie to the Earl of Loudoun, afterwards her husband.

Caniget, Nov. 25, 1666.

229. My lord — To give a return suitabell to anie of yours, is above what I am capabell of, they so far excied both the capacity and desert of, my lord, your lordships humble servant,

MARGARET MONTGOMERIE.

Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Earl of Mount Alexander.

Eglintoune, this 28th of May 1669.

230. My noble lord — The conditione of my affairs obleidge me to call for what is my oune: And therfor, though I be wnwilling so soon after my father's death, and wpon the first correspondance with your lordship, to give you the trouble of paying money; yet I am neccesitat to begg your lordship's leive to putt you in mynd of that debt your father did owe to my father, which some that haue knoune can witnesse was laid out for your lordship's father as ane act of his kyndnesse and respect for him. I do therfor perswade myselfe, my lord, that by the law of gratitud, your lordship will make peyment of that debt; and I do desire yow pay it to this gentleman the Laird of Lynchay, my cussing, to whom my fayther, in his testment, did convey this debt in trust to my behoofe; being altogether confident your lordship will not faill in ansuering the money. My lord, ther are, besides this debt, some other acknowledgments which your lordship's predicesours were pleassed to obleidge themselvis in to my predicesours, which I shall onlie now mentione, and not further trouble your lordship with. If your lordship please, you may have ane further account from Lynchay what thes are. And so, my lord, being desirous to continue that corrospondance and kyndnesse that hath bein betuixt your lordship's predicesors and myne, therfor I desire, if ther be anything wherin I can be serviceabill, yow may command,

My lord, your lordships affectionat cussing and humble servant,

Lady Elizabeth Crichton, Countess of Alexander eighth Earl of Eglintoun, to the Lady Coilsfield, 8th January 1674.

231. Dearest madam — When I conseder thay many oblagationes yow have bene pleased tow heape uppon me, incouragath me to intreat won mor; wich is that you wold be pleased to sed, so sone as this comes tow your handes, som trusty parson tow wate magtakets tayler at wrin, with a hors, tow rasave a packe; and be pleased tow kepit in your coustaty, and euer obleg

Your most afectionat saruant,

January 8, 1674. E. Eg: Eglintonne

My saruis tow kind Mag and my oune Sandy.

For the much honored, my Lady Colesfeld. Thayes present.

From Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglintoun, 14th September 1678.

232. My lord — I reseved yours of the tuintieth six of November, deated from Peasly, only within thes tuo dais; so I found by it, that both your laters and mine doeth almost al miskearie; for I doe ashour you, I heve not neglected to wreat to you ons a weke sins we parted hear. I heve sent my servant George Norie that he maie give you an ful and true acount how afears now standeth betwixt my Ladie Wantworth and me; and to show you the nesesitie I am in to heve my Candilsmes annuitie presently transmited to me. I heve drawn an bil upon Mr. W. Rodger for an thousand marks paiabel to Sir Wiliam Sherp upon the first of Januarie, which I hope your lordship wil caus paie punctualy; for if it be not paied, I most paie intrest for it, until it be paied. The berer wil shou you how that unfortunatly when everie thing was going on in order to our mariadge, ther cam an unfortunat leter to Lids, ocasioned by sum words Major Bontin hade spoke in order to ther trusting me thear, which hade ner reuened al: yet, notwithstanding, I heve got so mutch intrest with the ladie, that I heve got her to condeshend to the drauing of papers, by ashouring her that my son and freands will al join what we doe agrie upon, eather as to jointer or childerens portions. As for the last, ther is no heast in it; and the ashourans I heve of the vast advantage the match wil be to my son and famalie, maketh me so confident of his and your condeshending as to disayer this of her ladeship. I have drauen the doubel of an leater, which I heve sent with my man, that I wold heve my son wreat to me, and send it with al posibil heast to me; which your lordship wil see can be no wais prejudicial to my son, and I am confident so sun as my ladie sieth it, the mariadge wil goe on. So living everie thing, and trusting absolutely to your kear that my earnest disayers in this leatier maie

be spidely obserued, I wil troubel you no further; bot ashours you non can be mor sensibil of your favors, nor wil be redier to serue you at al ocasions, than, my lord, your afectionat couseing and servant,

Duncaster, Septr. 14, 1678. EGLINTOUN.

James Earl of Perth, Chancellor, to Alexander Lord Montgomery, 19th May 1685.

233. My lord — You are for his Majesties present service furthwith to convocat and command all the heretours of Kyle and Cunynghame, and they are hereby strictly required and commanded to joyne and continue with you, being sufficiently armed and furnished with tuenty dayes provision, and to obey such orders as shall be by yow given them, under all highest paines; and with them yow are to act not only within your owne bounds, but where his Majesties service shall require, for suppressing and destroying all his Majesties enemies, and for preventing any rebells from joyning together, as you shall find occasion; and you are to continue vigorous and active in this service, untill you receave furder orders from those who shall have power to that effect. This being given in command by his Majesties High Commissoner and the Council, is signified to yow by your humble servant,

Perth Cancell.
J.P.D.

Edinburgh, 19 May 1685.

For the right honorable the Lord Montgomery.
For the Kings speciall service, These. Haist.

Alexander, eighth Earl of Eglinton, to his second Countess, Grace Popeley.

London, August 19, [16]85.

234. Dearest heart — I cam hear yester naight leat, and found Mr. Wantworth wel; bot Madam Wantworth is at Fishlok. I am ageing to moro for to and wil staie only one night; and nixt daie in my bak coming I wil wat upon my Ladie Key; and the nixt daie I am, God wiling, for Winsor: for I doe ashour you I wil neglect no taim hear so that I maie heasten bak to you; for God knoweth that to be with you is the only hapnies of, dearest lyf,

Your affectionat and trulie lovind,

I praie you let me hear from you, d./u.

For the Countes of Eglintoun at Brettonhal: to be left at the post hous of Scribridg to be sent to Mr. Thorolds in Wakfild Yorkshier. Thes.

Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate, to Sir James Montgomerie of Skellmorlie, and others, 5th September 1688.

Edinburgh, 5 September 1688.

235. Gentlemen — Being very desyrous to encourage yow in evry thing that may tend to the quieting our nativ countrey, and may tak off the reproach that lyes on our religion from those wild people, I doe heartily allow yow full power to nominat any person yow please to officiat as advocat for

Your humbl servant,

You may send any yow please against Thursday the 13 of September, which is a Councell day, and I doubt not bot yow will get the Justices of Peace setld as yow wold wish.

For Sir James Montgomerie of Skellmorlie; to be communicat to the rest of the Justices appoynted by His Majesties Privie Councell within the bailliarie of Cuninghame. These.

George, first Earl of Melvill, Secretary of State, to Sir James Montgomery of Skelmorlie, July 4 [c. 1690].

236. Sir — Yours of the 22nd past was very welcome, in place of being unacceptable; and I return you my thanks for your freedome, and the account you give me off affaires. And if it be not a trowble to you, I should desire the continuance of this favour. I hade wrett to you ere now, if I had not been these severall dayes attending the King's commands, which I receaued not till this night, for sending this flying paquet. I hope as it hath been so, it shall be my endeavour, according to my ability and call, to keepe a good understanding between king and people. I doubt not but you know ther ar various representations made of affaires heere (this is a thing ordinar in the world); and that I only can doe my dwety in giveing my sentiments to his Majestie when askt, leaveing the determination to himself. This I am confident of, that his Majestie is willing and ready to doe all things that may contribute to our happines; and I perswade my selfe that you and your freinds will not be wanting in your endeavours to prevent what may any way obstruct a good setlement. And though all which we propose or desire cannot be gott done at first, yett, if wee can attain what principally tends to the satisfaction and good of the nation, wee may with the greater patience wait for an opportunity of having our happines compleated. As for your own particular, I shall not be unmindful of it. I am at present straitned with tyme, so shall add no more, but that I am, sir, your most humbl servant,

To Sir James Mountgomery.

Letter to Lady Anne Gordon, Countess of Eglinton, intimating the death of her mother, Anne Lockhart, Countess of Aberdeen, 15th July 1707.

237. Madam — The bearer of this brings you the unwelcome news of the death of your dear mother, the Countess of Aberdeen, who was removed out of this valley of misery on Friday last, a little before midnight; and her corps were interr'd at Methlick yesterday, about ten in the forenoon. My lady having, some while after your ladyship left this country, recovered such a measure of health as to be able to go abroad in a chair, she thought fit to try the bagnio once or twice; which instead of doing her good, put her blood in a great commotion and spent her spirits. Thereafter she was seized with a violent flux that continued with her for three or four weeks, having had it for a fortnight ere she made it known. This ended in a great heart sickness with an oppression of her spirits, a continual fetch in her breath when awake, and a feaver, (the flux continuing still moderately with her,) and these lasted about a fortnight till nature at last yeelded. It was generally supposed that the gout having left her outwardly, the malignity of it did now affect her head and stomack, which occasioned great heart sickness and a continual desire to sleep, tho' she was nothing refreshed by it, and the two or three last dayes she slept little or none. She retained her senses to the last, tho' she spoke little all the time of her sickness by reason of the forsaid oppressions; but when she spoke she had alwayes a deep sense of the infinite mercies of God to her, and of her own unthankfulness, and humbly and patiently accepted her afflictions with the spirit of penitence and submission to the will of God. My lord, your father, is very much affected with the loss of so dear a freind, his counsellor and comforter in all states: he was afraid lest she should have been seized with violent convulsions as D. Gordon was in the same state; but no such thing happened. Her strength went off by degrees, and she expired in the greatest quiet that might be, retaining her hearing to the last. Her husband and friends have reason to bless God for giving them so long a lease of her, she having been six and thirty years in a married state; and the later part of her life having been so uneasie to her, they have no reason to repine that God hath removed her to, I hope, a better state. I am glad your ladiship had occasion to be with her so lately, and you parted from her with the apprehensions of not seeing her againe in this world. She has often since spoke to me of you with great affection; and when in her sickness she gave her blessing to her children, she minded your ladyship in particular. God grant we may make a right use of all events, especially of the death of such dear freinds, and may be thereby excited to liue in a daily preparation for our own. My lady Margaret is much affected with her mother's death, and I hope such a sensible stroke shall have a good effect upon her. The affair that concerns my lady Margaret is like to come to a good issue. The M. of S. was in toun Wednesday last, and dined next day with my L. Aberdeen and yesterday my L. Haddo had letters from the L. S. desiring a meeting in order to the contract, and referring the whole difference between his father and him to Haddo, as my L. Aberdeen

has likewise done; so that it is like to be concluded very shortly. May it tend to the true good of both. I hear your ladyship has put off your journie to the Bath to another season. God orders all to the best for them who are entirely resigned to him. The marriage between Lithgow and L. Margaret Hay is concluded. My L. Haddo is very forward to have his sister my L. Mary well settled. May your ladyship's health be more encreast and confirm'd, and your mind acquiesce alwayes in the Divine disposal, which will afford you great peace in all states.

Aberdeen, July 15th, 1707.

Madam — After the writing of these, I had occasion to wait on my lord your father, who bid me tell you that as he was most sensibly touched with this affliction, so he had a sympathy and compassion for you in it; and that now being depriv'd of your mother, he desired your ladiship might write the more frequently unto him. He has returned by the bearer that volume of Monsieur de Sacy's Notes on the New Testament which your ladyship sent him, with which he is well pleased. I had a line two weeks ago from London from D. Keith, wherein he tells me that he had been informing himself as fully as he could concerning my son, and that the fullest account he has is by one Captain Crepigny a Frenchman, who went abroad with S^r. Charles Hotham (my son's colonel), and was every day in his company till a little before the battle of Almanza, that he is now returned and assures him that Hotham's regiment was not in the action, but in garison in Alicant; and D. Keith writes that Colonel Wade's relation agrees with this. He sayes their captain remembrs my son particularly well, and speaks favourably of him.

Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun, to Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield, M. P.

Eglintoun, December 9, 1707.

238. Sir — I reseved yours of the 29th of the last month by this day's post. I am treulay oblidged to you in letting me know the resolutions of the Comons in so important a poynt as the dissolution of our goverment. I cannot but [think it] strang how our present ministrie could expect it could goe otherways; for you may remember last year, on of the great arguments used for the Union was, that they, good men, u'eer for suppressing all places heer; and to show ther disinterestedness, u'eer, for the good of ther countrie, satisfied to be brought upon the same levell with ther nighbours. But, God knows, nothing was further from ther intentions. Houever, over-reuelling providence letts us see that the snaires men lay for others they themselfs ar cached in them. I am persueded all other places will be taken away, as will councell; and that we shall be reduced as near to the constitution of England as possible. It was talked that the cession was to be devided, and a pairt to sitt at Glasgow. I need not advaise you to promote this as far as you can; since you well understand how much its the interest of yowr constituants, and of all the west. I intreat you to lett me hear often from you; for you ar the onlay person

hes done me the favour to lett me know hou affaires ar goeing; and your kindness and sivilitay shall always be acknouliged by your affectionat cussin and humble servant,

Eglintoune

Hugh Montgomerie, Esq., London.

Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun, to Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield, M. P. [?]

Eglintoune, February 25, 1708.

239. Dear sir — I had the favour of your's of the 14th by last night's post. I am fullie persueded thes who have so far gott the ascendant of the ministrie as to make them quitt their best friends, will never give them over till they put the wholl partie on a levell. So I dar say my Lord Thesowrer hes more difficultie and disquiet hou to gard against this, and the mismanagment in Spain, then overballanceth his mightie favour and powr. I am much surpraised with the account yow give me of the lords having resolved that ane act shall be brought in oblidging all the electors of peers and comons to take the abjuration. For my pairt, I think it directly levelled against this nation; for you may belive ther will be a great manie presbiterians, as well as others, will refeuse it. Tho' if the Torie partie wer as wise as they should be, and as I would have them, they should not be cacht by such cobwebs: However, ther's no help for fools.

But I am hopfull this act will not pass the comons; for its surlay an incrochment upon the fridom of elections, which the comons at all times haue indevord to keep as frie from clogs and bars as possible. And if ther be anie apirance in yowr house against this act, tell Maister Frances [Montgomerie], if he expects to be elected next parlament, he will be amongst the forwardest. For I doe sincerlay declaire, I think ther will not be six electors in this jurisdiction. And then how small his interest and mine both will be, I live him to judg. I cannot fell, in everay letter, to tell you [how] haylay you oblidg me in letting me know what's a doeing. Pray yow lett me know how soon yow think yow may be home; for I long much to see you, that I may understand manie little things that ar omittied in writting, and indevour to assour you that I am with all sinceritay, dear sir, your affectionat cussin and faithfull servant,

EGLINTOUNE.

Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield to the Lord Pollock (Sir John Maxwell), 20th March 1708.

240. My lord — I would have written more frequentlie to you, had not Sir Robert Pollock given you all the news averie post, and by his letters I understood that your lordship was in health. The pre-

sent circumstance of affairs macketh us depend upon intelligence from the north; and I am glade to be assured from the Court hier that the threatned invasion is over, which most be varie easie to our countrie and to all good Protestants in it: for when I reflect upon both our sins and securitie, it had ane terrible aspect; and I am in some measour comforted to find by intelligence from our countrie, that ther appeared ane unanimatie and zeall to oppose ane Popish interest. My lord, I am perswadded your lordship, and the other gentlemen your nighbours, will not be wanting on this occation to lett Her Majestie know your affection and zeall for hir government and the Protestant succession. You will best know how to adjust your address from the circumstances that occurr with your selves; and I am convinced it is absolutlie necessarie to vindicat Presbiterians from what is throwne upon them.

My lord, my friend is gone to Scotland under varie great uncertantie as to his project; for though he wrott many letters about his proposall whill he was hier, yett he told me he never could receave any answer: what tyme may produce I know not, bot I should be varie glade to accept of your lordships mediation in that affair; nor can I say it will be declined if ane fair opportunitie offer. I am, my lord, your lordships most faithful and humble servant,

London, March 20th, 1708. HUGH MONTGOMERIE.

For my Lord Pollock.

Mr. Francis Montgomerie of Giffen to the same, 20th March 1708.

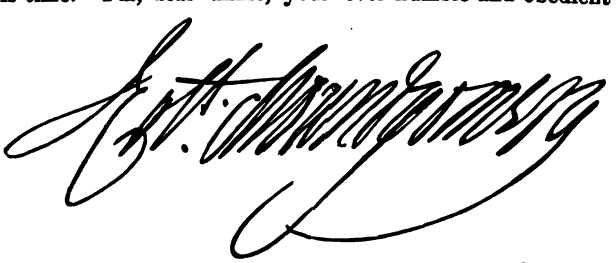
241. My lord — I knowe your lordship hath a better account from Edinburgh then I can give you, of Sir George Bings hindereing the French to land in the Firthe of Foerthe, and his persewing them two dayes: some are of opinion they maye land in the noerthe in the tyme our fleet hath bein at Leith; others thinke they are returned to Dunkerke. I ame affrayed Kilmaronoke maye have more friends in Renfrewe shyre then Sir John Shawe. I wish Sir John wold joyne with you in favores of a third person of your choise; as Sir Robert Polloke, or some other who may have friends in the shyer; which I conceave is the only way to hinder Kilmaronoks bieing elected. I hear Bishopton is setting up in the shyer of Aire. I shall be sorie if my Lord Eglintoune be for him; I ame confident he will not cary it. All the mony bills hath gott the royal assent, except on which will pass nixt weecke: its hopt the Parlament will ryse in a foertnight. I ame so wearried of this place, and longs to be home, that I shall staye fewe days hier after it is up. If it pleas God I gett saife to Edinburgh, I intend to goe soon west; and shall waite on your lordship at Polloke, and acquaint you of many things which I cannot wreit lest my letter miscarie. I ame, my lord, your lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

London, Merch 20, 1708. F. MONTGOMERIE.

Sir Robert Mountgomery of Skelmorlie, Baronet, to his uncle Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield.

Bruntisland Castle, the 30th of Dec. 1715.

242. Dear unkle — I must own that I have sufficient assurance if I did not intirly relay upon your goodness to me, as well as your generositie and your character of a good Christian; and forgiveing being one of the best marks, I hope youll make use of it att this time to me, in pardoning the crime I have commited against you, in marrieing without your knowledge. When you use to press me to marrie, you alwayes told me that you did not value mony, providing the woman I took was of a good and vertuous character and of a good familie. The first is what noe bodie that ever knew her doubts of; and for the last, when you know that she is immediatly come off Keirs and Blackbarroneis families, youll be convinced. I must confess, I wish to God I had sooner follow'd your advise; for now I find their can be noe true hapiness but in a vertuous love; and since I enter'd into it, I must own all my inclinations I had formerlie to roveing and extravagancies in my liveing, is now turn'd to the contrarie; for I think a man of honour is to look to the intrest and easines of his wife and familie. Tho she has not mony, yet, I doe assure you, were she acquent'd with you, which I hope in God shall be soon, youll be of my opinion, that she is of more value, considering her inward qualities. If youll but frankly pardon the only crime of consequence, I'm perswaded her unkle will doe for her handsomley; soe that our furder hapines depends upon your and Mr. Robert Murray's meeting, which hope youll order soon. I believe my Lord Annandale will writ to you about this affair also; and he'll convince you that the Goverment is intirly pleas'd with the service I have done, and zeal I have shown for it since I came here; and if you should punish me as I deserve, it may be of ill consequence; for my enimies may lay hold of it to disapoint me in my just reward I expect from the Gouverment. I pray to almighty God heell incline you to forgivenes for the future hapiness of two who loves to excess, and who ever will have a true duty to you, depends upon it; especially since my wife is gone six ore seven weeks with child, so that your just resentment may disapoint me of what a value nixt to your forgivenes — a child. I need not, I hope, instance that all people of former ages, as well as the present, of religious and good characters, has placed their pried most in the act of pardoning. Nay, our petition of the greatest consequence which our Savior has taught us, is, pardon us O Lord, as we pardon those that have offend'd us. Soe I doe not in the least doubt of your application of it att this time. I'm, dear unkle, your ever humble and obedient servant and dutifull nephew,



Sir Robert Mountgomery of Skelmorlie to his uncle Hugh Montgomerie.

Bruntisland, the 14th of Jan. 1716.

243. Dear unkle — I had wrot to you sooner, but I have been this eight days marching to endeavor to meat your friend Rob Roy at Falkland. In that case I had treated him as he deserves, but was disapointed. The Pretender came to Pearth upon Saturday last, about two o'cloack, and immediately went to Scoon; he gave to each of his guard a shilling, which was a hundred clans: The Master of Sinclar and Sir Robert Gordon are taken prisoners by my Lord Seaforth, who is ordered, and also my Lord Huntley, by the Pretender, to joyn him with all their men. Upon Thursday last a ship from France bound to Dundee, loaded with arms, amunition and mony, was stranded att St. Andrews. All was carried to Dundee. Sir John Aiken was aboard also.

I hope you will be soe kind as to lett me hear from you, which will be a great favour. I should be unjust if I should demand any thing of you which could be inconvenient, but I'm perswaded if you would but contenance me in my marriage, and meat with my wife's unkle, Mr. Murray, you would make me very easie, and at the same time doe your self noe hurt. I demand nothing att present from you; but I'm sure if you wauld but convince Mr. Murray that my marriage has no manner of [way] disobliged you, and that youll still continue your resolution of making me your air, failling children of your own, that he'll doe very handsomly for his niece; for God's sake be soe kind as to grant me this favour. My wife has her duty to you and my ant; and if youll doe nothing more, I beg youll both treat her as my wife, and allow her to writt to you as soe. I shall never be easie till I hear from you, which I hope shall be by the first occasion. My duty to my ant, and service to all friends. I am, dear uncle, your most humble and obedient servant and dutiful nephew,

ROBT. MOUNTGOMERY.

Hugh, eleventh Lord Sempill, to Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglintoun, 12th June 1718.

244. My lord — The kindness your lordship was pleas'd to show me when first I had the honnor to be known to you, and while I stay'd near you, giving me ground to hope that notwithstanding my long absence, you have not yet entirly forgot me, I presume to expose to your lordship the concern I am in to hear that Glasfoords children being obliged to sell what remains of the estate of Sempill in their hands, its believed your lordship designs to buy it. You may remember that when they were about selling the lands of Glasfoord, it was thought necessary to have my consent, but that I was so positively assur'd of my only right to the whole estate of Sempill, that I thought myself obliged to refuse it, tho' ther was advantagious offers made me, according to my circumstances at that time. And on this occasion, I can't omitt declaring to your lordship, who is one of the greatest and best relations of our family, and who has always express'd so kind a concern for it, that my right being indefeasible, both as heire male and by

provisions made in my favour, I am full of hopes that I shall one day be in a condition to claim the estate of Sempill from whoever shall possess it in right of my Lady Glasfoord; who, in reality, had non but the advantages taken of my minority, and the circumstances I lay under after the Revolution. Wherfor I should think myself unfortunat to see your lordship my adversary whom I know to be such a lover of justice, that I hop'd you would befriend me in recovering what I believe God and the laws of the nation have made justly mine: I beg, then, you'll be pleased to reflect that I have the honnor to be come of your family, and that you'll conserve for me that friendship with which our family has been so long honnor'd by your's. I have three sons, who, I thank God, have such education that I hope your lordship, and the other friends of our family, will not think them unworthy of your protection, which I shall always endeavor to deserve myself, and to inspire them these sentiments of esteem and respect with which I remain, my lord, your lordships most humble and most obedient servant,

Salins, June the 12th, 1718. SEMPILL.

For the right honorabell, the Earell of Eglintoun.

James, fifth Earl of Galloway, to Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield.

Eglintoun, February 18th, 1729.

245. Sir — I, with the greatest concern that's possible, doe acquant you of the death of my dear freind the Earll of Eglintoun, quhich happened this day towards three in the afternoon, to the great surprize of all of us. I was by him when he dyed, but spoke not one word, nor knew anie person; yet, with the greatest ease, and without anie strugle, he finisht his life. The melancholie situatione of this familie is not to be exprest: Nothing but sorrou and greif to the greatest degree in all faces. I'm desired by my Lady Eglintoune to beg of you to acquant your lady to causs send immediatly the dead cloaths, made up by some persone in Glasgow, whom she thinks most proper for such work. Let them be done of best creap; and be sure that all things necessarie for the bodie be sent furthwith. The confusion, by his lordship's sudden death, in this family is such that I beg you'll be so good as to forgive whats amiss in this letter. I onlie beg you'll dispatch this bearer. I doubt nothing of your real sympathie with all this familie, and belive I'm, with great sincerity, dear sir, your most humble servant,

The wax cloath is to be put on his bodie to morrow; soe that its necessarie the dead cloaths be made large, and the sooner they be dispatchit the better.

My Lady Eglintoune is in a verie melancholie state, and gives her humble service to you and your lady.

Hugh Montgomerie of Hartfield, Esq. at Glasgow.

The same to the same.

Eglintoun, February 22nd, 1729.

246. Sir — Just now I have the honour of your letter; and I'm extreemlie sorrie that your present indispositione shall deprive me in particular of the pleasure and satisfaction of your good companie hear at this melancholie juncteur. Belive me, dear sir, I heartly wish you a perfect recovrie. I delivred your commands to my Lady Eglintoune, who has a verie gratfull sense of your hearty concern, and of your sincere sympathie with her ladyship and familie at this melancholie occasione. The great loss that's sustained by all of you by the death of my dear Lord Eglintoune will be sensiblie feild in a short time; and none will find the want of him more effectionlie as poor Lady Marie, who, in particular, desires me to make her compliments to you, and to assure you that she hes all the gratfull impressons of your freindship to her, and that she cant be to mindful of your constant respect towards her ladyship, and gives her humble service to you and ladie, as my lady and all this familie doe. This afternoon my Lord's bodie is to be cofend; and just nou I've a letter by ane express from my wife, which oblidges me to take journy for Gallavay to morrou airlie. But, God willing, shall be hear the night before the interrment, which is prefixt to the 20th of March. I wish from my heart your health had allowed of your comming hear immediatly upon my lord's death. Your advice had been verie necessarie on severall points. I've been as usfull to the familie as possiblie I could, and shall never be wanting to do that small service I'm capable, and the distance I live from this can allou of. Belive I'm, with the greatest sincerity and respect, sir, your most faithfull humble servant,

Make my compliments to your ladie. GALLOWAY.

Frances Stirling, Lady Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, to Sir Hugh Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, 30th August 1731.

247. Dear Sir — I recev'd last night the malencoly account of my dear Sir Robert's death. God only knos my condition att this time, and what a surprise it was to me. The last letter I had from him, dated the twenty seventh of April last, he gives me an account of his being ill, but that he was recovring, and was to be att the review, and after that to go to London, his frinds giving him hope to be provided for; so that for a long time I beliv'd him ther; for since that time I never heard more from him. Week before last, I heard he was dead by a letter writ me dated the ninth of this month. Upon the recept of it I went to Edinburgh, caus'd aske the

Secretary of War, who said ther was no such thing; caus'd aske my deare Collonel, he said ther was no such thing. Upon which I return'd home, setisfy'd that it was so. God only knos my melencoly and deplorable condition; that is far beyond expretion; for, I belive, I shall sinke under my load. My letter is from one Jones; I sopose an officer in the regement, who acquainted me of it by orders given by him before he's death. I am, dear sir, your afflickted nise and affectionate humble servant,

August 30, 1731. FRAN. MONTGOMERIE.

Lady Bettie Montgomerie to Andrew Fletcher, Lord Justice Clerk, 16th June 1738.

248. My dearest lord — I was honoured with yours on Monday last. I'm perfectly sencible of your friendship and regard for me, and whilest I live shall allways retain the justes sence of it; but as for my marrage, it is what I do not in the list think of. I own your lordship's opinion and commands would have great weight with me in this and every other step of my life, for indeed I look uppon you as my parent, and is proud to own it on all occasions; but as to this, I hope you'll not use your power, for as I shall never marry without your approbation, I flatter myself you'll not press me: for, dear Justice, as I'm not in the smalest degree in love with Mr. Ogilvie, allow me to say I do not think his estate such as to bayes me to marry him without the list of that tender passion that his seem'd to touch my sister Susa's heart. It is what, indeed, I think I never will do; for I hold it as reason in my matrimonial affairs, that I should either be in love, or marry for money, as I can, I thank God, live independent of any of my relations as to the necessaries of this life. I hope you'll approve of this resolution, and tell Mr. Og. in what maner you please, that I beg he may never think any more of me; and permit me to subscribe myself,

My dear lord, your most affect. pupill and obedient humble servant,

Abercairnie, Jun 16th [1738]. BETTIE MONTGOMERIE.[1]

Allow me to offer my most affect. complements to Lady Milton, and my blessing to your pupil, power Sir Willie. I hope you'll pardon my giving your lordship that trouble.

Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoun, to Lady Margaret Montgomerie, 10th April 1739.

249. Dear Peggy — As you refer'd me to my Lord Justice Clarks letter, I delayed writing till that come to hand, which was only last post. I heartily approve of your marrying Sir Alexander McDonald. He is a gentleman of whom Mr. Thomson had often given me a fine character, and my Lord Justice Clark confirms it. I shall be proud of having such an ally. You know you have been aleways my chief favourite, and you need not doubt of your continuing so. I am glade

[1] Lady Bettie (Elizabeth) was the eldest daughter of Alexander, ninth Earl of Eglinton. Lady Bettie afterwards married Sir John Cunningham of Caprington, Baronet.

I have it in my pouer to give you some proof of my friendship and regard. What I have done for you, you will learn from my Lord Justice Clerke, to whom I have written by this post. I am, dear sister, your affectionat brother,

Winchester, Apprile 10, 1739.

To the right honorable
Lady Margaret Montgomerie, Edinburgh.

Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoune, to Andrew Fletcher, Lord Justice Clerk.[1]

Winchester, Aprile 10th, 1739.

250. My lord — I had the honour of yours by last post. I approve much of my sister Lady Margaret's marriage with Sir Alexander McDonald, as he is a gentleman of so good a character, family and estate. And as Lady Margaret was allways my chief favourite, I should be very fond to do her any service in my power; and therefore I frankly consent, and beg your lordship and mama would concurr with me, to give a full and ample discharge to my sister Lady Margaret of that hundred pound sterling which she ows me; and likeways I consent that such cloaths be taken off for Lady Margaret at my charge, as my lady and your lordship shall think proper. Make my compliments to my Lady Milton and all my cousins. As your lordship has allways behaved like a father to me and my family, I beg leave to subscribe myself, my lord, your lordship's

Most oblidged and affectionat humble servant,

Mr. Fletcher is very well. EGLINTOUNE.

To the right honorable the Lord Justice Clerk, Edinburgh.

From Mr. William Thomson, tutor to Lord Eglintoun, 3rd March 1739.

251. My lord [Eglinton] had a letter some time ago from Sir George Seton, desiring he might lend him £150 to carry on his claim to Winton. My lord has return'd no answer, nor will he till he knows your lordships opinion . . .

From the same, 8th August 1739.

252. My lord — When my pupil went to London the Whitsuntide holydays, I proposed staying only a fourth night; but, under the pretence of bearing company to Mr. Charteris, it was

[1] The following nine letters are also addressed to the Lord Justice Clerk, who resigned that office in 1748, and then resumed his original judicial title of Lord Milton, retaining his appointment as a judge of the Court of Session till his death in 1766.

prolong'd; and at last I found it difficult to get him out of that place at the end of seven weeks. 'Tis true, in that time, we made a tour to Cambridge, besides several jaunts round about London. As my lord had several of his countrymen allways hanging on about him, this contributed a good deal to encrease the expense, which is something above a hundred pound. Our very lodging, endeed, cost above twenty of it.

I think it my duty to acquaint your lordship, that I think Mr. Montgomerie in a very bad way at Eaton. He makes no progress in his learning, tho' I'm afray'd he advances sufficiently in the knowledge of several other things he had better be ignorant of. I am really at a loss to advise how he may be disposed of. He can by no means be along with his brother; and I think any great school is improper for him. A private boarding school, I imagine, would answer best.

My lord continues to apply very well to the business of the school, tho' I believe he never will make a great Latine scholar. But what ever progress he makes in Latine, I am sure it has been very lucky that he came hither; and the longer he stays it will be the better for him. For as he is quite in subjection to the rules of the school, he is kept allways imploy'd in some innocent way at least, and prevented from running into those vices and excesses so common to the noble youth of our age, and which soon might prove his case if these restraints were removed.

I assure you, my lord, I am engaged in a very difficult and uneasy business. I have to do with one who is too old to be commanded, and too young to be advised. It has been his great misfortune to be allways flatter'd and indulged, which makes him impatient, in the last degree, of the least contradiction or controul; and as he is naturally very violent and impetuous in his passions, this makes it still the more difficult to manage him. But in spite of all these difficulties, I should not dispair to succeed very well, if I am but heartily supported by those who ought to be most solicitous in promoting his education; tho' I'm affray'd some of them have been at pains rather to diminish than encrease my influence with my pupil. But these litle grudges I hope are now over. But while I have the happiness to be protected by your lordship, I shall allways chearfully perform my duty to my pupil, and, I hope, with success.

I had a letter lately from Mr. Fletcher from Oxford. He is very well. I shall make it my business to inquire what he is doing, and if I find the method of reading any way deficient, I will endeavour to supply him with proper directions. I shall be glad to know from your lordship to what time I should make up accounts. After wishing your lordship all health and prosperity, I beg leave to subscribe myself, my lord,

Your lordship's most devoted and most oblidged humble servant,

Winchester, August 8th, 1739. WILL. THOMSON.

From Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoune, 23rd August 1740.

253. My lord — I recev'd yours last post, which was very acceptable, and adds one more to the enumerable obligations I lay under to your lordship.

I would have wrote to you by the same post I wrot to Lady Eglinton, but I thought you would be so much hurried with visits from the great number of nobility who are now in Scotland, that I might be trublesom (which is a thing I shall allways endevour to avoid). The great care your lordship has allways taken of my education is a sufficient proof of the regard you have for my wellfair. It is by good education that one man is superior to another; for, in my opinion, an estate or title is no part of the possessor, but only what fortune has often bestoud on the greatest villains in the univers (et vix ea nostra voco). As your lordship asked my opinion on this subgect in your last, I beg leave to offer an instance. If a rich brut of a nobleman should chance to be placed in the midst of the Indian barbarians, and with him a man of sense, learning and other accomplishments proper for a gentleman, you may then se the intrinsick value of the one and the other — this man caress'd and honour'd, the other dispis'd and hated. By this one may know the value of education, and how great a difference it makes in human nature, and without which they are litle differint from the brutes. For this reason I think it absolutely nesessary to pursue my studys; but the place where, I leave to your lordship, who is a much better judg than I. To leave school too soon (in my opinion) is more dangerous than to stay too long; therefore I am willing either to come doun in December, or stay till March, and go afterwards as soon to the University as you thinck proper.

I am sorry to say that Archy is not fit either for University or Colledge; he is so idle, and knows so litle of Latin, that I can't immagin what can be done with him. If it be not too much truble, I should be glad to know which way I am to come doun to Scotland, whether post, or if I should buy horses. My compliments to Lady Milton and all my yong relations. I am, my lord, with the most inaffected sincerity,

Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

Winchester, August 23, 1740. EGLINTOUNE.

P. S. — If your lordship agree, I will bring doun my friend Andrew. It will make litle difference in my expence, and add much to the pleasure of our jurny.

From the same, November 4, 1740.

254. My lord — I have flatter'd myself, for this fortnight past, with the agreeable expectation of hearing from your lordship that I was to leave this at Christmas. I have now served a very long apprentiship to litrature, and am very desirous to enter jurnyman. If I had no other reason, this one would be sufficient to make me fond to leave school, that I am so tall I am quite asham'd to be seen at one. I have gon through all the different degrees of preferment in this school except propostor, which is an employment I do not at all desire; because they are generally either the objects of envy or hatred. When your lordship has a leisure hour, I should be glad to hear from you whether you think it proper I should leave this at Christmass, or spin out a

disagreeable imprisonment till March. However, I shall submit to your will the more cheerfully, that I am fully convinced which ever way you determin will be most for the advantage of

Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

Winchester, Novem 4, 1740. EGLINTOUNE.

P. S. — You are now three letters in my debt.

Mr. Michael Ramsay, Governor to the tenth Earl of Eglintoune, to Andrew Fletcher, Lord Justice Clerk.

Paris, Novr. 2, N. S. 1742.

255. My Lord — . . . My Lord Eglinton came here about the middle of August, and entered to his exercises as soon as he could go abroad, which was in a very few days after. He is from morning to dinner employed in dancing, rideing, fenceing, or with his French master; and as he has the best masters in Europe in these professions, I may venture to say his lordship has profited as much for that time as any young gentleman whatever; and more than any ever I knew. It is not to be supposed his lordship can study much at Paris; yet he does not altogether neglect it: company, the plays and operas, must be supposed to fill up most of his afternoons, as they do; and for the first, his visits are in the best French familys in town. As he is a lover of sport, and has a permission of shooting in the Plaisirs du Roy, that is his entertainment on holidays, or in seeing the paintings and other curious things in and about Paris. When he is not in company, his evenings are employed in drawing, for which he has likewise a master. As this is literale and genuine fact, tho' his lordship might possibly bestow his time better, yet I hope his friends will be of opinion he does not employ it ill. It will, however, be improper we should stay much longer at Paris. We have this advantage, however, by it, that his lordship wont be obliged to go to a provincial town, as Caen or Angiers, to learn exercises [by] which he shall have acquired here in much greater perfection, where, from the great concourse of young gentlemen who are there merely for their exercises, it would be next to impossible he should mind any thing else.

My lord's expences here have been considerable, and possibly in some articles he may have exceeded; but then he has lived like himself, and when his accounts come to be examined (for there is not one farthing unnaccounted for or unvouched, which can admit of one), I hope it will appear that they have been laid out with a tolerable œconomy. The article of cloaths comes to above £400. This is the place of dress, and possibly his lordship may have gone a little too far into that tast; but he has had suits for two seasons — autumn and winter — and has a coachman and a couple of footmen in rich laced liverys, and each of them a suit of ordinary cloths besides. And rich cloaths serve more years than one: this is ane article will be almost quite sunk in the provinces. There is another article of expense which your lordship will not so easily excuse; for my part it gives me a good deal of pain — I mean the article of antiques, and what his lordship calls curiositys: this has cost him already about a hundred pound, and God knows how

far it may go. Tho' I would willingly flatter myself that his lordship's good sense may get the better (begging his pardon for the expression) of this idle, unnecessary, and endless expense.
. . . . MICH. RAMSAY.

To the right honourable the Lord Justice Clerk for Scotland, at his house in Edinburgh, p. London.

From Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoune, 19th March 1753.

256. My dear lord — I shou'd have acknowledged the receipt of your lordship's friendly letter by return of the post, but was affraid you might conclude I had not given myself time enough suficiently to weight what you had taken the trouble, with such a parental affection, and in such lively colours, to lay before me.

What your lordship says in generall is unanswerable; and I really cannot help admiring the disinterested manner in which you woud serve your friends without even so much as obliging them. For your lordship knows (as the world goes) it is by flattery, not friendship, that we gain the affections of men; nor is it by sincerity or merit, but impudence and good luck, that we gain the affections of the women: nor wou'd it be ability and integrity that woud gain the affections of the great (if they had any): so that I conclude, whenever any one acts with sincerity, it must be where affection has got the better of interest. This I take the liberty just to mention, least your lordship shou'd think I was so blinded with my own inclinations or habits as not to perceive the sincerity of your intentions. If your lordship thinks I see this in its proper light, and doubt of my gratitude, you do not do me justice.

That I have liv'd beyond my income is selfevident; but if your lordship will give me leave to lay my accounts before you, your lordship will see by the sums I have received, and by the books and accounts, both here and at London, that I have not spent £1800 in this country for this twelve months past; which I must own is in a great measure owing to my sister, and that the number of my servants, horses and dogs are somewhat diminished.

As to the security I offerd, your lordship knows those things so well that I can say nothing to the contrary; but as I think it woud have been presuming too fare on friendship to have made such a proposal if I had not thought I cou'd have given some sort of security, I hope your lordship will be asured it was thorrough ignorance of the law rather than impudence; and indeed when I consider that I am certainly worth more — that my friend John Mackenzie can bind a man for at least as much as he is worth — that my tenants have always one years rent in their hands — that my creditors can at any time not only lay hold of the bygon, but also the current rents — that my brother offerd to become bound with me, and that it is above 14 to 1 we don't both drop in the same year,— I say, my lord, when I consider all this, I really cannot blame myself for falling into such a blunder. In short, I perceive it is with borrowing money as with selling estates: a man, it seems, may have very good funds without being able to give proper security, as well as a very good estate without being able to make out a proper title. Your

lordship and John Mackenzie, I dare say, are of opinion that those who are in this situation have the most reason to live within bounds, as it may be as difficult for the one to sell as for the other to borrow, except with the assistance of his merciless friends, who woud afterwards starve him into a proper way of thinking. A propos: there is a scheme just come into my head. Does your lordship think one cou'd not raise a little money by writing a book upon the merits of starving, shewing the great benefits that arise from this to mankind in generall, as well as to individuals, by preserving ancient families, producing many great poets, philosophers and artists? For this work (like other projectors) I think myself highly qualified, having been starv'd into a moral philosopher, and am now turnd author. I beg you will speak to Lady Milton and the young ladies to take in subscriptions for me, and that you will be so good as to give the money to Mr. John Mackenzie of Delvin, who is to correct the work and write notes upon it. The whole will consist of — 1. A treatise upon friendship, entitled He that spareth the rod hateth the child. 2. An elogium upon poverty, by which it is clearly proved that necessity is the mother of invention, and starving the foundation of morality, religion, temperance, health, agility, economy, generosity, &c. 3. The Tragedy of Lent; to which will be added (by way of farce,) the analogy between poverty and chymistry, or the beau turn'd chymist, and the chymist beau. Dramatis Personæ: Mr. Make Gold and My Lord Spend Gold. The whole to be published upon a fine imperial stamp'd paper or parchment, in a capital letter, by the first of June, which is the day my taylors bill becomes due. If your lordship cannot get my subscription full by that time, I must sell my book to Edmond Curle, or some of those rascals about White's, who, tho' they can hardly read, are extraordinary calculators upon joint lives. 'Tis pity so excellent a work shou'd fall into such hands, but necessity has no law, and an author cannot starve, even tho' he has none but himself to blame.

I am sure by this time you are thoroughly tired, so shall not say a word more, but only to assure you that I have the honour to be, with the greatest sincerity and esteem,

My dear lord, yours,

Crawly, March 19, 1753. EGLINTOUNE.

To the right honourable, the Lord Milton.

From the same, 1st August 1753.

257. My dear lord — Your lordship may easily imagine nothing but such a hurry as I never was in before cou'd have prevented my writeing your lordship. I declare I think there is more fatigue in this than in fox-hunting, and more hurry than at a subscription masquerade: however, I have got things in such a way that, if the Duke of Argyle does not visit the sins of the elder brother upon the younger, the thing cannot miscarry. I am just going to Findlastoun, and shall do my self the honour to pay my respects to your lordship in a day or

two at Edinburgh: meanwhile, I hope your lordship will do me the justice to believe that there is no one on earth more sensible of the many obligations we all ly under to you; and this even although you will not lend me money without security, or at least a probability of my growing more douse, as you grave people call it. I beg leave to offer my compliments to Lady Milton and the young ladys; I am sure they will speak to the Duke of Argyle for Archy.

Eglinton, August 1st. EGLINTOUNE.

From the same, 10th August 1753.

258. My dear lord — I was at a meeting of the gentlemen of the shire of Air, and am returned, since I had the pleasure of seeing you, in order to let you know how things stand, and to have a little of your wholesome advice. I will come out to you, or will wait for you in town, as you think most fit, but pray let me see you before I set out; you know I have private as well as publick concerns to talk to you about. I hope you made an apology to the Duke for my violence. I flatter my self his Grace will the more easily excuse it, as it was in behalf of one whom he himself seems to have a warm side for as well as I. Pray make my compliments to Lady Milton and Miss Fletcher, but not one word to that divel Betty, for I am sure she wishes for Mure Campbell. I ever am, my dear lord,

With the greatest sincerity, yours,

Ed^r. 10 August 1753. EGLINTOUNE.

All things go on well.

From the same, 6th June 1754.

259. My dear lord — I am really affraid your lordship will think me impertinent for troubling you so often; but as I have allwise found your goodness superior even to my faults, I flatter myself you will forgive me for this once, as the gentleman in whos favours I apply to your lordship is my very particular friend, and one whom I think it will do me credit to be of service to. I hear the place of one of the assessors to the town of Edinburgh will fall by Mr. Areskin's being made Baron of the Exchequer; and if your lordship would have the goodness to interest yourself in favours of Mr. William Wallace, nephew to Fullerton, it will be doing me a very particular piece of service;[1] I need not say an obligation, for I am already as much obliged to your lordship as it is possible for one man to be to another; so shall not trouble your lordship any longer, but to assure your lordship that I shall ever remain, with the highest sense of gratitude, my dear lord, your most obedient and most humble servant,

Eglinton, June 6th 1754. EGLINTOUNE.

Pray make my compliments to Lady Milton and all the family, not forgetting Betty, that little Loudonite.

To the right honourable, the Lord Milton, Edinburgh.

[1] Lord Milton has indorsed on this letter, 'Mr. Wallace chosen assessor the 12th June 1754.'

From Lady Margaret Macdonald, 17th January 1755.

260. My Lord — As every instance of your lordship's friendship gives me a real satisfaction, I reckon myself at present under a particular tye of obligation for having reccomended me to the protection of the Duke of Argyle. His Grace honor'd me with a visite on my comeing to toune, and since then has interested himself in everything regarding my son and me beyond what I cou'd have expected; but his singular humanity easily points out to him the injurys done me, and the purity of my intentions towards my family, tho' fait lately cast a shade over my conduct, tho' inosent and harmless.

I have putt myself wholly into his Grace's hands; and throw him I hope to be justified. As no guilt upbraids my mind, or am I affraid from any conscious transgression, that ever I deserv'd the indignation or wrath of any pourfull enemy; yet I find I have had some who have aim'd to hurt me under the veil of friendship. It was, however, honest of one great man to let me know, without dissimulation, that I had left a profess'd foe behind me, whos' honesty and zale putt him above the low artifice of dissguising his dislike by refuseing me an opportunity of removing that ill grounded prejudice, by never allowing me an opportunity to say a few words in his oune ears; tho' it seemes to appear by his corrispondence here, that had he been thirty years younger, it wou'd not been a hard matter to have accomodate matters with Lady Margaret. This I only tell your lordship, for want of other news, to make you laugh; and when you have enjoy'd the joke, putt my letter in the fire, that the eligence of the thought may go no further.

I am greatly oblig'd to Mr. Fletcher; I have many reasons to be convinc'd of his kind dissposition to serve me, and the affection he bears his friends, which I consider as a quality he owes, in some measure, to his natural connection with your lordship. I can never cease from asking favours of you, my lord, therefore I beg, when you write to the Duke, or your son, you'll lett them know that their seasonable friendship shall remain sacred in the memory of, my lord,

Your lordship's ever obedient humble servant,

London, January 17, 1755. MARG^TT MACDONALD.

I begg to offer my respectfull compliments to Lady Milton and the young ladys. If they will employ me for the fashions, I'll exert all my skill in their service.

Alexander, tenth Earl of Eglintoune, to John Mackenzie of Delvin, 6th March 1753.

261. Dear John — You will see by my letter to Lord Milton that I am very awkward at asking favours, even of my friends; so that I despair of ever makeing my fortune at Court, where one must often aske them of ones enemys. (If that be true, you have the more reason to live within your fortune, says John). But to return to the point in question.

Be it known, etc., etc., etc., that we, Alexander Earl of Eglintoun, etc., do hereby nominate and appoint John Mackenzie of Delvin, etc., as our Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenepoten-

tiary; warranting this our mandate against all deadly as law will, notwithstanding it is not wrote upon stamp'd paper.

I forgot to mention in the body of the writ to whom you were ambassador; but I suppose every body knows it is to all those who will lend money upon fair promises without proper security. I see very well the difficultys you will labour under among that nation of money-lenders, who will hardly understand your language; but if you get Lord Milton for your interpreter, I doubt not but in the light you will put things, they may listen to your negotiations, and with a little address sign a treaty, which will very much rejoyce, dear John, yours,

Crawly, March 6, 1753. EGLINTOUNE.

Alexander tenth Earl of Eglintoun, to his brother Colonel Montgomerie, on the occasion of the former being challenged to fight a duel.

262. Dear Archy — I have just had a chalange from Mr. Bathurst; for what reason, I declare I know not, except it is because my hors runs faster than his. As I have heard those soart of things eaven put you warlike gentlemen in a little flurry, I need not be ashamed to own that I am afraid my letter may not be wrot with all the presision I could wish. Houever, I hope on this occasion you will take the will for the deed, and do the honour to my memory, and the friendship which has allways subsisted between us, as to execute, as far as you can, what I should have done had I had time.

Frank Stuart's son (if he had not turn'd out good for nothing) would sertainly have had every thing in my power, failing your children, or mine. I could wish M. Ramsy and J. Wight had each of them a hundred a year settled on them for life; and that my old servant, Charles Crookshanks, had five hundred guineas doun, to stock a farme for him. This is all I have to say, except to advise you never to be a tule to any ministry, and never to make a bet with any one you have the least regard for. If I am not much mistaken, there are a great many people who feel as much resentment for losing their mone as any gentlemanly sort of man feels pleasure in winning. I am, dear Archy, yours, EGLINTOUNE.

Newmarket, March.

P.S. — There are some letters, here and there, which I should be sory any one should see. I beg you will let Ramsay look for them, and I am sure he will burn them without reading them. Don't neglect horse howing if you love Scotland.

Fifty letters from Susanna Countess of Eglinton to Andrew Fletcher of Salton, Lord Milton, and Lord Justice Clerk, including one to her step-daughter, Lady Mary Montgomerie, on her marriage, 1727–1757.

263. My lord — At the desire of Lady Charlot Hamilton, I give your lordship the trouble of

this; but I hope it caries a pardon along vith it, bieng recomended by on beautie and deliverd from the hands of prittie Mistres Leque. I leave it to your lordship to examin her case; I wish you may find nothing unlawfull in it, knouing your inclinations to be tander and compassionat. I flatter the widow and orphant with hops of dispatch in there business. I thought to have had the pleasure of seeing your lordship and my lady in Edinburgh befor now; but Lord Eglintoun assurs me he can command no munie. I bege you'l believe, where ever I am, that you have not a mor affectionat friend or humble servant then, my lord,

Eglintoune, June 2, 1727.

I give a thousand humble servisess to Lady Milton.

Jun 2d 1729.

264. Everie line of your letter hes so much of your self in it, that it's uelcomer then I dar tell you. I wish I was that philosopher you cal me; I thank you for the bantter; but the next stepe to that perfection is to know I am not. I confess I bild castles in the air, and that the destruction of anie one of thes imaginarie joys uou'd occasion reall woe. I know too, at the sam time, that to bee hapie, expectation shou'd be low, ambition humble, and love quite out of dors; here is a lesson for your strengeth of reason. Abbilitys such as min shou'd be pittied.

You say Lord Abardean is coarting Lady Hariot Gordon; it desturbs me not. No doubt his ambitious veus will give his fancie wings: take care to lope them, or he may soar quite out of reach. My thoughts are much in favours of Earl Marchmont; I doe believe he is that verie thing he wou'd be thought; but our western sun is too near the setting to warm anie thing above an insect that's bloen here by the forse of eastrlie winds. I'll see yow Fryday or Saturday first; till then, and for ever, all joy of heart atend you. Adieu.

Say fin things for me to Lady Milton. All your pupoles in this house divoats them selvs yours.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

265. My dear lord — I gote safe here upon Thursday last, and found all my infantrie in good helth, who remembers you with much gratitude.

The satire you mingled with your last conversation had sumthing in it so poignant that I still fiell the stings of it, which forsess me to bege a truss till meeting, and then yow shall have leave to say to me what you pleas, providing you say nothing of me. Pardon the mannie troubles my unexperienced abilitys have occasion'd yow; looke with the forgiving eyes of

frindshipe upon all my falts; believe that I'll make it my business to gain your lordship's good oppeenion, and that I writte no romance when I declare my self, my lord,

August 15, 1729. Your lordship's much obliged and most humble servant.

September 30, 1729.

266. Cou'd I say annie thing to excuse the trouble of reading my letters, I wou'd writte verie often; but my oun thoughts are so perplex'd at present, that there tiresome to my self. My daughter's conteenou'd illness give me sencible pain. It's a hard task, my lord, to submite to fatall necessity, uhen the softest affections of the heart oppose themselvs too it; indead, she diservs verie well, but she will bee much better. It's I am to be pittied. Hope! what art thou but a delusive dream: a toy given ws by Nature to steal from ws our preasent moments? Forgive my complaining; it's natural, and the privaledge off frindshipe.

It's pittie to robe you of one moment, that knous so well hou to imploy time: I envie yow that share of it that's given to Lord Ilsa.

I shou'd be proud of deserving his lordship's approbation in anie thing, but in particular the education off my son. Mr. Scott, whom I made choise of, is here; and so far as I can judge, will bee a verie proper instructor, having both larning, good nature, and good breading. I wish you wou'd ask my lord's opeenion what method is best as to my son's jurisdictions and patronages when anie vacansie happens.

I'll conclude this with assuring you that I have not as yete seen anie bodie uhos superiour merite diverts my thoughts from there just centiaments of your worth. Pray make compliments for me to my friends, and be just to me in believing that I am that verie thing I wou'd be thought. Adiew.

To the honourable Lord Milton, att his house in Edinburgh.

October 11, 1729.

267. I have at last the pleasure of a letter from you. I'm glade to admite of anie excuse you'r pleas'd to offer, my peace of minde dipending a great dell upon the banishing the dismall thoughts of being neglected by my best friend. I have alluays thought constancie and treuth the greatest perfections attainable by human nature. I uplaud thos in you; tho' in what relats to me, you have adhered to them contrer to justice. I never writte to you uithout wishing to say sumthing to pleas or divert. If I'm balk'd of that, it's but naturall to forbear fruitless atempts, and desire that you may suffer under sum painfull remorse for the having neglected one whos desirs to pleas merited sum retourn. Pray accept of all the gratitude my heart is capable of for the past good offices you have done me; they shall ever bee present with me. The concern you express for all my actions gaining the approbation of the world, is a most undoubet mark of your affectionat esteeme. Indeed, my lord, you are quite master

of them. I cou'd not pardon my self the doing of annie thing without the approbation of your judgment. I have this day a lettr from Doctor Cockburn from London, greatlie approving of all that Dr. Clerk hes order'd for my daughtr Ellie. He likuays injoyns the going to the Bath; and, indead, repeets the words of Dr. Clerk (without delay of time). How can I quiet my minde if I shou'd forbear doing all that's possibl? In fatall evants this is no small comfort, that one hes done there dutie. If I goe, sistr Kettie will stie with my children; and my taxmen of the Colearie offers the advance of monie. The tarm favours my lessening the number of my servants, which will save considerable; but notwithstanding of all this, if you have arguments against it, I'll endeavour to quiet my thoughts. Had I been told sooner, that going to Bath was needfull, it uould have been better; but I still dipended upon the success of medicins, and this last is perhaps or'dord as extremunition. I bege you'l writte by the first post. I must ditermin finalie one way or other. In hops that you'l take mor care of my tranquility here after, I'll ventor once more to subscribe myself your dipendant. Adieu.

October 23, 1729.

268. What is the matter with you, my dear lord, that I'm so seldom honour'd with hearing from you? Is it possible that my letters don't reach your hands, or doe you want that monitor in your heart which I flatter'd my self uou'd keepe you in mind of your friends in this place? Either of thes are soficent to perplex my thoughts. My daughter conteenous still as she was; no alteration to the better. I have asked the doctor's advise for the last time; bee what it will I'll follow it, however small my hope bee from it; the justification of having done my dutie will fortifie my fainting speerits. Pray contribute touards that by letting me hear from you soon. Adieu.

Your litle favoret is ungovernable, and her landlady persists in complaints of small profits; so I design to send for her next month, for too prevent uorce consiquences.

To the honourable Lord Milton, att his house in Edinburgh.

October 30, 1729.

269. I have allmost broke my head with conjectors about the caus of your silence. Was I your mistress, jealoucie had broke my heart! What is the matter with you? Is it business or love that hes ingross'd you so entirlie? Are you such an arand husban that you won't writte to anie woman but your oun dear spous? I won't poote you out of conceit with that prittie singular notion, but bege that you'l love me for her sake, and remembr that I'm her cusin and your humble servant. Adieu.

This is my third lettr without anie ansuer —

There is no hate like love to hatred turn'd,
Nor annie furie like a woman scorn'd.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

November 2, 1729.

270. You'l say no dou't that I forgete the nature of mankind when I so often repeete my dull epistles. Noveltie hes its charms, but that's not what I dar pretend to intertain your lordship with. This place affords nothing to soplie my dullness; compliments you don't like; and as for talk of business, it's easie to believe ther's nothing new in that. I assure you my own thoughts are at present so much imploy'd about the caus of your silence that they seldom turn upon annie thing els. Sure I have never done anie thing to diserve this punishment; if I had, black ingratitude uou'd darken everie dawn of joy. No, my lord, I am quite incapable of forgeting the mannie evidences of frindshipe I have had from you. I regrate that it's onlie in thanks I can repay you. Gratitude is the gift of the heart; that I offer you in my sentiments perpetuallie. I have sent in my servants for Christie; they are to come by Carnuath for my daughtr Bettie, who hes been uith Mrs. Lockhart since I came from Moffat. I had letters last post from Doctor Clerk and Jonston, advising my poor child Ellie's going to the Bath, as the last and onlie thing can now bee ordor'd for her. I'm in the outmost perplexity uhat to doe. My stie in this place is verie necicary, the expense great; but if hir life is lost, no industry can restor it. My dear lord, I bege you would direct me what to doe; if you aprove of my going, I'll take Christie and Pegie allong and send them to a bording scoll; they are much chaper in London then Edinburgh. Make compliments for me to my cusin. Her linin cloth shal be sent with the retour coach.

November 19, 1729.

271. It is quite impossible to bee long angrie with you; you have too mannie ways to pleas for one to denay themselve the pleasure of reconsiliation. I admire both the rivers you mention; but having dranke of Lethie's stream, I thinke of neither till wee meete again. Since you don't plainlie approve of caring my daughtr to the Bath, I take it as granted I had best delay doing of it till the Spring; the season is, indeed, far advanc'd and she verie wake, tho better then is commonlie believ'd. As to that of naming Master of Ross, I can't think of it as a proper thing, since it can't bee the intrest of this famelie to name annie body that uou'd thinke it below them to bee deputed by the tutors, had they accepted. Indead, my lord, if I'm to bee oblig'd in the nomination of a sherive, Willeamwoode must bee the man, in whos ffidelity to the famelie I have had so mannie proofes, and I know he will still bee under direction as to what concerns the honour of it.

The lining was pack'd upe, but the coachman was over loded with ladys; it shall be sent by carior. I shant have reason to complain of solitude, bad wether, or cross fortune, if you indulge me the pleasure of hearing from you. Allow me the pleasure of believing I can steal you one moment from business without your grudging the hapyness you bestow. Adieu.

To the honourable Lord Milton, att his house in Edinburgh.

January 11, 1730.

272. I am much affrayed that this epistle cums from an allredie condemned in your judgment, as quite unuorthe of your coraspondance and protection. Believe me, my dear lord, when I tell you that my silence hes proseded from want of helth, and a pain in my eyes, neither of which cou'd hinder me from rendering you that dutie in my minde which everie action ought to express. I supplicat forgiveness, and begs not to be doom'd to that punishment of not hearing from you, your letters being the best part of my divertion: sure there is no charme like that of elouquence. Your thoughts ar so gay, so new, and so various, that it's dangerouss for a femell eye to looke upon them, least they shou'd be quite ingrost, and think of nothing els but the author. I wish to be that philosopher you call me, at least so far as to have the pouer of turning every thing in my thoughts to the best advantage. I oun that the beliefe I have of your frindshipe gives me a quiete of mind that I shou'd be a stranger to without it.

Do you intend that I shou'd become enthusiast, that you make use of so mannie repiticion of grace? Sure I am you can't be found light in the balance, having so many puns at command. I saw and approved of your letter to Mr. Crawford. As for the yunger children's aliment, don't you think thos above forten may choise curitors, and they agree for there bording? As for the rest, I must no dout bring aske it of your lordship. I encline to delay that till the somer sesion, if you thinke proper.

My son hes sustain'd a great loss in Mr. Scott. So far as I cou'd judge, no bodie cou'd be better accomplish'd for the teaching languages; and had, besids his naturall sweetness of temper, a genirall knouledge above what cou'd have been expected of his years. I am solicit from all quarters by the relations of the ffamelie, to take the persons they name for my son's tutor. I have evaded all thos proffers of ther kind concern, by telling them that for sum time Mr. Agnew, who is here (and indead perfect mastr of the Laten and French), will take the trouble of teaching my son. Hes nearness of bloud will, I hope, be a spur to his diligence; and as he is a half-pay lieutenant, I shall probablie have an opportunity of geteing quite of him, if he don't ansuer expectation: thus my present situation forsess me to act the part of a low politician. Lord Garlies wrote me last post that Mr. Summervail told him that he wanted to be disburthin'd of sum papirs he had belonging to my lord: I sopos it's the intail. I have wrote him for ansuer, that whatever your lordship and the other ffriends thinke proper shall be aproven of by me. Sure you uon't thinke it's reasonable that my son shou'd be at annie expense to fortifie other peopl's rights. I believe by this time you'l reckon the lengeth of this letter a soficient punishment for you thinking me lasie, negligent, or forgetfull of my benefactor. I protest I am quite free from all, or annie of thes imputations; but remains, with the deepest sense of obligation, my dear lord, your lordship's, etc.

Thousand of services to my cousin. I hope her cloth hes a last ariv'd.

February 15th, 1730.

273. I have had yours, my dear lord, both by the post and by the servant . . . I'm glad that your letter brought me the good news of your recoverie befor I heard of your illness. I bege you'l take care of preserving to your frinds a treasure which this life is rarlie blisst with. Did I or could I express all the sentiments of my heart upon this subject, you would be persuaded that it was a veritable love letter . . .

May 4, [1730].

274. There cannot be a greater mark of the brightness of your friendshipe than to take my falts upon you; judge what worke this must make upon a heart quite sensible of obligation. You doe things quite beyond my imagination; no wonder I cannot express my gratitude.

Whey doe you fansie I cou'd be angrie with you? No, my dear lord, you might iven thinke aloud, tell me my falts without disguise, and not fear my anger. My friendshipe is of that nature that it's beyond suspition. I uou'd have wrote to you, but, having nothing material to say, delay'd my litle chat till meeting.

I'm surprised at the doctor's complaints of Pegie; sure they are ill grounded. The monie shall be remited by next post for on year's board. She has gote 70 pounds for her masters. The reflections was ill timed.

Ellie is worse of late; Susie is struck out of the scurvie; Charlot has lost the use of her limbs. Doctor Clarke has ordor'd them to goe to Moffat. I shou'd be glade to know your time of being at Edinburgh, since they are to pass that way.

I hope that lord (whom I still looke upon as my oracal) has thought of a right person for my son. I fear his loss of time and his eyes will retard his progress mor than I can tell you; for that he has the mor neede of a wise and prudent companion and director. I thinke he wou'd be the better of a Frensh vallie: if you'r of that opinion, I bege you'l hayer on for him. Make my compliments to thos I'm obliged to, and believe me, with a most thanke full heart, as much your and you can possably wish. Adiew.

Brother Thomas is here. He maks speches to you, but I can't give them right.

If you'l allow constancie to prevel, I must submite to importunity. No heires stands in my way; but I hope my head and heart shall allways submite to government.

Eglintoune, June 15, 1730.

275. I'm glad the same post that brought accounts of your illness mentioned your recoverie. It's but selfish when I tell you, that feu things in life wou'd have affected me mor than your being in the least danger. I know the vallow of your friendshipe, tho' I can't returne it in annie other way but by acknouledgments and entire confidence. I alluays thought your just notions of men and things uou'd naturalie lead you to the contemplation of philosophy, who's charms are so engaging that nature is her guid, and fortune and pleasure her companions. I long to talke with you upon this subject, looking upon it as a sement to freindshipe, as it

is a rectifier of the human minde. In one word, thos hes most of the phylosopher is nearest to perfection. Retirement, I doe oun, is the wise man's choice; but it's an ambition, not onlie just but noble, to persue the honest calls either of fortune or of glorie: here phylosophy teaches us that persuit with such moderation of desire, as not to lose in the interim all relish of our present condition, but content our selvs with what we are from the prospect of what we hope to be: here the bitterness of adversity loses its tast, and prosperity is less to be envied then peace of minde and tranquility.

I'm sorie the Duke and Duchess of Arguil is not to honour my house with ther presence. I don't find it conveniant to be all this season in toun; but if you lete me know when his Grace returns, I'll cume of purpose, and bring my son to uate of him. My coach is quite to piecess: they aske 20 lb. to refite it, tho' the carage is entire.

Lady Charlot Hamilton desir'd her compliements might be made to you, and aske you in her name to send the presentation for the kirke of Glessart to Mr. John Moorhead.

Pardon the lengeth of this epistle, and believe it cums from ane who wishes your oun merite to be the onlie measure of your hapyness. Adieu.

I'm so ill of the cold and headacke, that I hurrid over this write in such heast, that I dou't you'l read it.

Bath, November 9, 1730.

276. My dear lord — I did myself the pleasure of writting to you soon after I came to this place, but hes never yete heard on word from you; pray what's the matter? Cou'd I convie my self with the same ease as this letter, I vow I wou'd come and see.

I can't say this place affords great pleasure to your humble servant. I have left too mannie atractives behind me to be sensible of waker influence. Ellie reaps not the benefite from the watters I hop'd for; but be the evant what will, I have don my dutie, which gives a lasting comfort. You tak'd with uncertantie of coming to London. I shou'd be overjoy'd you did. The roads are so bat across the countrie that I darnot venture accross with an sote of horsess, so that I'm oblig'd to goe that way, but I shall stie no longer then I kiss the Queen's hands. I hope to be in Scotland befor the end of next month.

I bege you'l send me a bill for 200 lb. upon the banke, least my monie shou'd run short, which I take all the care I can to prevent; but the surest way is to come soon home. If you pleas you may direct my letter to Earle Isla, and recomend my self as a verie tolirable piece of antiquatie.

Pegie's voice is much addmir'd. She hes had a master ever since I came here; but I don't find her 100 pound will goe a great way.

Give mannie services for me to my dear cusin; and assure the person with whom I dranke the possat that the thoughts of them is dear to me.

If Mr. Crawford be turn'd out as survior in Irvin, I wish you cou'd poot Mr. Samuell Boyse in his place. He hes much merite.

Thursday, 9 at night.

277. My lord — What doe you take ws ladys for? Doe you thinke we can waite all day long in expectation of a fine gentleman, and sleepe at last in spite of the disapointment? Fie, fie, Lord Milton! Don't lete your oun hapyness make you so negligente of other people's phelicity. Earle Ilay is good and humain: Whey did you not tell him I depended onlie upon his responce to be gon quite satiesfied?

For that Lord Milton.

London, December 8, 1730.

278. Ther's no master so instructive as experience; but I had reither purchess my knouledge at a chaper rate then that of knouing that it's possible to be forgote by you. Whey doe you punish me as a reall criminall, when my crimes are but imaginarie? If my heart does not betray me, all its centiments are gratitude; all its intentions are the making returns of thankefullness to you, who hes given it peace and joy. This post I expected with the outmost impatience; but my hops of hearing from you (by this new disapointment) is litle short of dispare. I desir'd Collonell Midellton to write you my anxious cars. Is it possible you hav gotte non of my letters? The last was asking the favour of you to send me a bill for 200 lb. from the Royall Banke. I had sete out this weeke, but cou'd not till I had the munie.

I have been graciously received at Court. Had you been here I dout I shou'd have left this so soon; but least you shou'd disaprove of my stie, not knouing my reasons, I'll leave all the pleasurs of this great world, and come to have the hapyness of persuading you, that dutie governs the heart of your forever obliged humble servant.

I can't give Earle Isla annie other name then the protector of my famelie. He hes a large share of my heart, and yete mor of my addmiration.

To the Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

London, December 16, 1730.

279. My dear lord — I had the pleasure of yours from the hands of Earle Isla, after drinking tea with him in his Libary. You'l perhaps thinke it odd that I shou'd talke of annie pleasure after ane so elivate. I look'd upon him in that situation as a cunjurar, and uou'd be glade to have the futoure parte of my life determin'd by his lordship.

The bill you sent came verie seasonablie. I'll send you mine for the wholl suma so soon as the rest reaches my hands. In the first part of your letter you seem to be angrie. I'm sensiblie affected with your displeasure, and if a criminall, begs forgiveness and to be reconsil'd upon your oun tarms.

Whey doe you hint a posability of a change in my life befor I see you? I'm sorie you thinke in that uay of me. No, my lord; my passions hes not that pouer over me, as to make me forfet your good opinion, which must be the consiquence, and such a an as no temtation hes the pouer of drauing me into. I knou the vallow of your frindshipe; I know, too, my

debet of obligation: the first I'll preserve with all the assiduatie I'm capable of; the last I'll return with unlimited gratitude: Cou'd I offer mor, my heart is capable of it.

I design'd to have left this place Fryday next, but I hant yete gote a proper place for Pegie to stie in. I thinke it will be possable for me to sete out once next weeke. I don't believe I shall have reason to regrate my coming here. Ellie is much better since she came. I fear nothing in the jurnay but her. Make compliments for me to my dear cusin, and believe me as much your lordship's, etc., as it's possible.

Eglintoune, April 15, 1731.

280. When I left the town, you talked of being my coraspondant; pray, what hes hapend to deprive me of that pleasure? I thought you uou'd have enquir'd after your humble servant, so wated for that to help my dull pate.

Dear Lord Milton, when am I to have the hapieness of seing you here, I bege to know? Mr. Adams hes been so ingadged by Lord Hopton befor he sete out, that it detand him from taking a plan of my designs; now that he's free, I incline to apoint his being here at the same time with your lordship.

I am at present allover aiks and pains; I impute it to the wandring in the fields when thos eastrlie winds are so penitrating.

I had a letter last post from Earle Abbrdean, with ample pouers to trete of the design'd mariage of his nice. Carnwath hes the like. His lordship is affrayd of his lady's taking the smallpox, so cannot leave her. Lady Marie writts in the same way she talk'd when we was together. I give my advice in the best manner I'm capable, and with equall sincerity as if she was my oun, but shall never offer violence to her inclinations. Tell my dear cusin that I think of her as I ought. All the yung folks are your lordship's humble servants. Adieu, my dear lord. I'll be glad to hear that Earle Ila is quite well.

To the right honourable the Lord Milton, at Edinburgh.

Susanna Countess of Eglintoune, to Lady Mary Montgomerie, her step-daughter.

Eglintoune, May 11, 1731.

281. I am surpris'd hou you can aske my opinion in a thing quit dishonourable for my famelie, when at the same time you have rejected it when offer'd, with a heart of sincerity for your hapieness and intrest. Your mariage with Capt. Cuninghame can never have mine nor no bodie's approbation. Good God! what have you don, that you talk of the necessity of ever thinking of such a dead of madness?

You aske me where you shall stie. Your lete follies hes poote it out of my pour to say your wellcome to my house. How can I be ansuerable for one so industrous in rewinning of themselvs and there relations? I hope you have wrote to the Earle of Abbardean. His

lordship is the onlie proper person to addvise the place of your abode. You know how fond I was to discharge my dutie to you. I thought it my honour, as it was my hapieness to make you easie; but as things now stands, I dar hardlie thinke of what's past. I know too much for myself or you; and must confess that I thinke a verie retired place (at least for sum time) uou'd be of use to you. That God allmightie may enlighten your understanding, and give you a humble opinion of all the things of this life, is the ardent prayers of

Your afflicted mother in law,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

To the right honourable Lady Marie Montgomerie.

Eglintoune, August 16, 1731.

282. The death of Collonel Montgomerie so soon reach'd my ears after my arrivall here, that it quite dampt the joy I had in finding my yung folks in perfect helth. Since he was knoun to you, I need not expatiate upon his carecter. The loss to my famelie is evident; and as to myself, it hes lessen'd the number of my sinceir friends: sufficient, indead, to oppress a famele heart, wake by nature, and unfortified by phielosophy.

I have not yete courage to poote my thoughts in writting to Earle Ilay. I shou'd be glade to know his conversation with Adams, and if the resulte of it was an approbation of the design; without which I shall not atempt that, or annie thing els, houever materiall. I bege you'l make complyment for me to his lordship in your oun acceptable manner. Say all I thinke: you cannot say too much for, my lord, your much obliged and most gratfull,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Your yung freinds desirs you'l believe them your servants, as I doe Lord Milton shou'd thinke of me.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

Wensdays night [1731.]

When you cannot hear Lord Ilay annie longer, I humblie bege that your lordship will listen for a few moments to your humble servant, S. E.

To that Lord Milton.

Eglintoune, October 23, 1731.

283. I know your allways so much under the government of reason, that I darnot so much as mutter a compleant against you. Silence is the onlie fault that's perceptible by me, and the satiesfaction of on letter makes it forgot. Kettie is not quite of that way of thinking: she suears that you'r neither worth hote nor cold, and that your a dounright sheepe; but I differ widlie from her, and feermlie believs that you'l be placed amongst the goats, upon the left hand.

The meeting at Ayr was diverting to thos cou'd share it; for my parte I onlie saw it, and wou'd much reither have been at your partie to the moss. I can't express how hapie I esteeme

myself in being remembrd by (that lord): the brightness of his wnderstanding, the goodness of his nature, and the sincerity of his freindshipe, is sophicient to make thos honour'd with his aquaintance forgete the rest of the world. Your oun abbilitys hes made you ucefull and acceptable to him, sophicient indead to make hapie and vain. . . .

I bege to know how Lady Boote agrees with matrimonie, and if her great friends was at the wedding. I'm soon to writte again, so wont lengethen this beyond the assurence of my being verie much your lordship's, etc.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

Wednesday [November 1731].

284. Just as I'm sete doun to writte to you, my dear lord, the melanholie accounts of Earle Loudon's death hes reach'd me. I left that upon Tewsday; he was then in good helth, was taken ill this morning about 2, and was dead at 3. He is justly lamented by all that knew him, for all the virtues that's valouable amongest mankind.

I am realie so much affected with the loss of so good a friend, nighbour, and relation, together with the sudent and unexpected stroke, that I can doe nothing but offer prayrs for the preservation of my remaining freinds; amongst which numbre my dear Lord Milton may be reckon'd the most conducive to the hapyness of his humble servant, etc.

I wait your ordors as to our designs without dors.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

December 9, 1731.

285. My dear lord . . . You seem to be affray'd of my vanity. I'm in no danger that way till such time as I have it in my pouer to gratiefie all your ambition, and make you confess I know the vallow of your friendshipe, and can reward your mannie servicess in a mor materiall way then bair acknouledgments. Adieu, dear friend.

January 1, 1732.

286. It givs me great joy to hear Lady Milton is safelie deliverd of her burthin. If the yung lady is endoued uith the beautie of her mother, and witt of her father, shell want no other douarie.

Your still adding on favour to another. No bodie sure can offer mor then there purs and person. At this rate, youl outbide everie bodie els. As to the suma, it shall be payed at Candelsmis; but as for my other debets, I must become bankrup . . . I doe believe in a litle while longar, I'll be so much mistres of myself as to be able to relinquish everie thing in this life, friendshipe excepted, which I'll retain for you the last of everie thing. I wish you a hapie new year, and that your heart may be pocess'd of all its desirs. Adiew. All here acknouledge your pouer.

Eglintoune, February 10, 1732.

287. I'm persuaded that dear Lord Milton is charged with som weightie consern of life, since he has not had time to tell me that I'm not quite forgote. I know you'l say that nothing materiall for my intrest is; but don't you (who hase been so long a spouse) know that weman's hapieness too often dipends upon trifels.

Pardon my pooting you to the expence of postage, since all I have to say is, that provocation can't possablie cancel the remembrance of repeeted obligations heaped upon, my dear lord,

Your lordship's, etc.

All your humble servants in this place begs there compliements may be made to you; I joyn them in offering our to Lady Milton.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

February 23, 1732.

288. My dear lord—I dout not you have verie good reasons for a London jurnay; what ever they are, may success atend you. I can't think of any request I have to make impresses me so stronglie as that of beging you'l take care of your helth, and return soon again. You aske me to recomend you to my favorets; the greatest I have is the person to whom you are allredie best knoun, and who, in my opinion, is sufficient for all. I hope when you meete with his lordship, you'l ditermin how soon my son is to goe to Glassgow, or els where. I fear he is but losing time here; and as my future hapyness much dipends upon his being a man of worth, I shall with joy divolve the direction of his education upon (that lord), to whom I give impliced faith. All I can pretend to doe is to preserve the goodness of his nature by keeping his minde pure and untainted, and giving him just ideas of moral life. I looke upon this as the proper basis for that superstructor to be rais'd by our wise friend, and you, to whom he owes so much.

If you thinke it proper, I shou'd be glade you offer'd my complyments of duty to there Magisties. They never neglect doieng me the honour of enquiring after me at all thos they think knows me.

I long much for a conferance with you: the being balked in my belov'd project obliges me to tourn my thought into different shapes; but nothing shall be fixed upon without the sanction of your approbation. I hate penurie, but loves endustrie. I fancie this is much your oun nature; so begs, since you know my situation, you'l sumtims thinke for me.

Write me, my dear lord, for what suma I'm indebted to you, that I may send it in. It's alluays a pleasure to me to hear from you; don't grudg that satiesfaction to me, who is tied with the strictest bondes of friendshipe to be, my dear lord, your lordship's most obedient, etc.

Many services are offer'd you from all here; and we joyn in our best wishes for Lady Milton. I'll take it as a favour if you can gete Willeam Robinson made a salt offisar anywhere.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh, May 27, 1732.

289. You think so differently from most men, that your silence has not pouer to persuade me that we are lost to your remembrance. You are so much wanted everie where, that I dar not repine at your long stie, tho' I lament it. I have been here some days, but reapes small comfort from it; since Doctor Clerk thinkes it's odes if Charlot ever recover the use of her limbes. He has countermanded her going to Moffat, but ordores it for Susie. She sets out hence on Munday; and I to my oun home on Wensday. Ellie remains here.

I'm anxious to hear if you have yete gote a right man to poote about my sone. I'm persuaded, when you see the small progress he has made in his English, you'l regrate it. His sight is vastly defective; but I thank God the eyes of his understanding is as litle clouded as cou'd be expected or indead wisht for.

If you have any spair moments, it will be kind to write me how you and my dear cusin does. My best wishes ever atends you. Adiew, dear friend.

Make speetchess for me where you think they will be welcome.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at London.

Eglintoun, May 29, 1732.

290. My dear lord — Tho' I'm only inform'd of your return by the publick prints, I cannot forbear expressing my joy at the welcome news. I hope both you and Lady Milton is quite satiat with the pleasurs of London. I own I long to see both of you, to satiesfie mor passions than that of curiosity. Whey have you been so long silent? Whey doe you leave me to that unhapy conjecture that it's possible I may be forgote by my best friend? Remove this painfull doubt; and believe I will forever endeavour to merite that place in your regarde I wish to pocess.

That part of my famelie which remains here are in perfect helth. I design to see you soon in Edinburgh, where wee shall have an opportunity of talking of many things uou'd be too teadious to commite to papire.

The progress now made in the coalleries in Irland gives me a humble prospect of my affairs of that kind. I have been thinking of sum method to keepe upe my present funds, and have at last fixed upon that of a brewarie in the sitadle of Ayr. Everie bodie thinks it may arays to a considerable suma; but as I have not the mony to bield to proper houses for so great a work, I fear it will stope. If you thinke I can give security upon my coall tack, you might than safely lete me have of my son's. But in this, as in everie thing els, I submite entirly to your judgment. He will have 500 lb. at Lambas, and 500 lb. at Mertamis, to give out upon bond.

I bege to hear from you, and that I'm still ranked amongst the number of your most faithfull friends. Adiew, my dear lord.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

Hamilton, September 26, 1732.

291. My dear lord — I came here last night upon a very melancholy occasion. My litle daughtr Charlot lays ill of a hecktick fever, past all hops of recoverie. I can't avoide being mov'd in a most sensible manner with the prospect of this perpetuall sceparation. I oun I have too litle phielosophy for this misfortune when it's added to the bad accounts I have of your helth. I vallow your life as I ought, and beges to be reliev'd from the dreadfull aprihencion of your danger by hearing from you.

If the evant of my child's sickness prove fatle, pray lete me know if she shall be buried here, or caried to Killwining; the first will be the least expensive; but whatever you approve of shall have my consent.

I thanke you for your goodness to Mr. Bogle. I'm persuadied he deservs your favour. Your oun disernment alluays directs you right. Adiew, my dear lord.

To the honourable Lord Milton.

Hamilton, October 9, 1732.

292. It has pleased God to take from me my dear child the 7th of this month. She is to be intered this day. I retourn to Eglintoune to-morow, and designes to be at Edinburgh the next weeke. It will give new life to my oppressed spirits to find you in perfect helth, tho' by your letter I have reason to believe you'r angrie with me; my ignorance of the caus quiets my mind a litle, being concious I never did nor intended you the smalest offence. My present situation dimands pitty, which I'm sure the goodness of your nature will constrain you too, towards here who wishes nothing so much as to be what you wish to have me. Adiew, my dear lord.

To the honourable Lord Milton, Edinburgh.

May 18, 1733.

293. Tho' there's nothing I wish to shun mor than that of giving you trouble, yete its sum times unavoidably drawn upon me.

This comes at present to bege your intrest for Mr. Carss to be made Comptroller of the Excise in roome of Mr. Barrow, who is dead. Mr. Carss has been a long time in the business of the Excise; so I hope he is knouen to you. I write to pleas thos that askes me; so you may doe in the affair as you think most proper.

My dear lord, I'm in the outmost anxiety about my son's education. Sure I shall be greatly blamed. It's not everie bodie will have the justice to [impute] the backuardness of it to the want of the proper sight of his eye; for which reason I shou'd be glade he was at some publike schoole, and in good hands. Nature has been bountifull to him in all things but this; so I ought to be thankfull.

I must oun to you that I thinke, as he is not yete quite good at reading Inglish, it uou'd be best to have him poot to schoole in the countrie of Ingland for some time; and after,

where our wise addvisar pleases. My heart akes with uneasie thoughts about this. I long to see you and tell you all I thinke: till then, dearest and best of friends, adieu. I'm just agoing to Moffat.

To the honourable Lord Milton.

December 16, 1733.

294. . . . All the ladys here wishes I coud urape them upe in this letter, and send them to you. Lete it unfold one single heart which bears some impressions not unworthy your acceptance, from my dear lord, your, &c.

Eglintoune, 20 [April] 1734.

295. My dear lord — I am very glad that your intentions for Lord Cassels' service has been so efectuall. I hope he will diserve the good opinion you have of him. I joyen you in believing that a woman of discreation, that he lik'd, might have it in her pouer to reclame him. I'm sorie the lady he pitch'd upon did not accept of that task.

Pegie thanks you with gratitude for your condicention to her. She is realy very frugall, and I hope her life will be long beyond the date of our payment. She is in arrear to me, but that must lay over.

Mr. Cochran of Ochaltrie wants the lon of three hundred lb. at this tarme. He will give any security you pleas to demand. It's a right thing to lend to our nighbours; so write me if he can have it. He is just now going about offering his service to this shire to stand as candidat for the elections, in the evant of Collonell Campbel's having no vote, which he avers;—the old one not being good, and the infeftment upon the new too late; but Collonell Campbel writs me it's quite otheruays: all the friends of this famely will be for the Colonel. As you are so too, it will be doing him a favour to solicite Cassels' protection for him. I oun it was my falt he ever was against him. Mr. Cochran says the Colonell was only infeft the 22d of July last; pray write me if that is too lete.

Last night Sir Archibald Stouart (who is full of news,) told me that there wou'd be the same objection against Mr. Blair in Ranfrew; and that they all regrated it, he being sete upe by Lord Dundonald, but that they now had an eye to Cragans. I'm sure Mr. Blair wou'd have been to your liking; but if he is not the man, I know non but Montgomery of Heartfield I cou'd recomend; and he, I doe believe, uou'd not undertake it. Perhaps, as Cragens is a man of sense, and a prity large famelie, he won't thinke it prudent to kick against the pricks. Whatever you determine in that countie, if it be for the service of our patron, it will be acceptable.

It's talk'd Lord Garlys will lose the touns in Galloway, if not the shire; whey does not he gete him self dubed an eldar from the madness so epidemical?

I conclud it will be unsafe to be in Edinburgh at the elections, so will not resolve positively to be there.

As to what I'm about doing at Air, I think I have great encouragment; the common amount of the Excise in that town is 20 lb. per week, and all the best brewars says they will take their malt from me, besids many engadgments in the ajasant touns and countrie; but success must justifie my project, as well as your politicks; tho', for my oun part, I thinke there's merite in a laudable atempt. You know I must provide for time to come, and penorie having no share of my heart, my head must worke my reliefe,—you having laid an imbargo upon the rest of my bodie.

Adieu, my dear friend.

It is a pleasure to hear from you. Endulge me in that when your time will allow.

I had a letter from Duke of Argyll in favours of Colonell Stuart of Torans, for our touns. We never can be bettar serv'd than by our last member; but his Grace's will must be our law.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house of Brunston, by Edinburgh.

Aprile 20, 1735.

296. My dear lord — You have, by your last, given me new grounds for thankefulness to you. The good news of my lord's being upon the road is extreamly welcome. Is it not pitty we shou'd be so long separat? Were it not so, I still have hopes he might come to the west upon as good an erand as Dundas does to Arniston.

I wish you joy, my very great lord, of your new situation; but if it is not to conteenue for life, forgive me if I say you'l be look'd upon as an honourable prostitute.

The horse is to be at Hamilton the 23. I wish I cou'd soplie all your lordship's wants; but that I doubet is beyond the capasity of the famel world.

I shou'd be glad you invited Charls Cochran here. I desire to live in peace with my nighbours; and I don't think I have given him any caus of offence. As for Major Cochran, I thanke God he is the only person upon the face of the earth has malltreted me; and as he has don me ireparable wrongs, I expect my friends, as well as myself, will resent it. No body cou'd diserve it less at his hands, having in the wholl of my life said and don any thing came in my way cou'd be of service to him; but as his falts are not like a jentlman, I hope to have an opportunity of treating him like a scoundral.

I am desir'd to make the complyments of the fair ladys to you and Lady Milton. Wee expecte you with thos desirs only knoun to merite like yours, and hearts such as that of my dear lord, your infinitly obliged, etc.

To the right honourable the Lord Milton, Edinburgh.

Eglintoune, May 25, [1735].

297. Since hearing from you, my dear lord, at anny time be wellcome, judge what joy your last epistle has given, by releiving me from the apprehension I had of your danger.

The nimph and matrons has made sacrifises and poured out oblations, but to the different Diatys, according to their ideas of your virtues. I find to my cost that they have reas'd a wholl hecatomb of innocent doves; how justly applied, I leave you to judge. . . .

I'll be glad to hear your news; but never any can come so welcom as that of your being in perfect helth, and that you doe me the justice to believe that non upon earth wishes you bettar, or can be mor sencible of your goodness, than, my lord, yours, etc.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at Edinburgh.

July 4, 1735.

298. My dear lord — Were it not that I know you'r uncapable of ungratitude, I shou'd believe your long silence proseeded from forgetefullness of your friends in this place. Be the reason what it will, I can't forbear asking hou you doe, and assuring you that my best wishes ever atendes you.

I desire you'l lete me have your oun opinion of the punishment shou'd be inflicted upon this criminal, according to the inclos'd precognition. He is contented to be banish'd to America. We have no exicutionar, and it will be hard to find one; but as his crim is of a monstrous nature, I shou'd be glad to have the judge well directed in it.

Give services for me to dear Lady Milton, and believe me, with much affection, yours, etc.

To the honourable Lord Milton, at his house in Edinburgh.

Eglinton, August 31, 1735.

299. My dear lord — Your friends hear teasts with sinceir joy everie piece of good fortune that attends you; and it addes to my satiesfaction to see the pouer of thos you serve in some measure equall their disernment. I sopose you'l be quite tired out with compliments upon this occasion; but I bege you'l accept of the wholl hearts of this famely as divoted to you with a most sinceir affection.

Your sons came here last night: they are quite well. The mony Mr. Thomson had shall be return'd by him next month. The malting prospers mighty well. It's possible I may yete grow ritch. (Is it worth so much pains?) Adieu, dear friend.

To the honourable Lord Justice Clerk, Edinburgh.

Eglintoune, November 29, 1735.

300. My dear lord — Since forgiveness is the perpetuall attendant of sinceir affection, whey than does my best friend doubet of finding it in the heart of one that lives under the deepast sense of gratitude? I do not believe you capable of doing any thing I ought not to forgive.

I looked upon your ansuer to Mr. Keeth as a prudent method of pressing Duke Hamilton to make payment. I'm sory his Grace behaves in that way; but I'm persuaded that 'tis his necessitus condition obliges him to it. As for my self, I am (as in relation to every othar action of my life,) satiesfied with doing what I thought right for me to do. I cou'd not refuse

my best offices to any body of whom I had so great ane esteem. If gratitude, or any othar reuard, is the price of our best action, I'm affrayd that repentance and disapointment will only be the conciquence.

Our good toun of Irvin looks touards your lordship for deliverance, as does your humble servant. They want to know if 'tis needfull to drau upe a new petition to the Parliament, the magistracy being changed; but as the reason for not presenting the last was upon account of no privit bills being receiv'd, I shou'd thinke it might serve. If your lordship has any leasure moments (which is to be doubeted of,) I wish you wou'd imploy them in talking to Mr. Adams about our great affair of the waggon way. Our condition grous every day worse; the leaders being caried off to othar Collearies now going near this place.

I find that Mr. Bowman, from disapointments (as he says, in other projects) will not be able to fullfill his bargan; but as the thing is lead doun in reason, if the act impouring ws to sete a tack be procured, wee may gete it exicute by a company of undertakers. I look upon it of great service to the famely; and without it, I shant know how to live upon 5000 marks.

My dear lord, suffer that perpetuall goodness of yours to imploy it self in considering the situation of one who has no time to lose in pooting her self out of the state, at least the prospect, of indigence.

As I have often said, their's no stepe in life I shall ever take without your knouledge; so I expect, from that entire confidence, the hand of wisdom and affection to conduct me.

All here are in full helth, and very happy. I wish you reliev'd from every oppresive care in life, of which numbere, at present, I'm persuaded is the pen of,

My dearest ffriend, your, etc.

Many services to Lady Milton and the dear litle creaturs.

Eglintoun, March 18, 1742.

301. My dear lord . . . The jumble thats now in the great affairs of the world seems amaising to countrie politicians. I am sorie our great Duke has again resigned the pouer of serving his friends and spiting his enamies. It may be right, but I do not understand it. Kettie is in perfite helth. If flesh and bloud gains favour in your sight, great is her clame. I hang upon your favour, and remain, my dear lord, your obediant obliged &c., &c. S. E.

Eglinton, October 31, 1744.

302. My dear lord — I have been told that the being much sought after, flatter'd the vanity of the femell world; if it has influence upon the mails, it's surprising to see you keep within bounds, since all degrees, ages, and ranks, looks upon you as absolutly nececary to their happieness. As for myself, I cou'd not subsist without you. I may justly say, without making love, that you'r the soule of all my actions.

Last post brought me your lordship's; as this does one from Lord Loudon and Archie. As my lord had no time to write you (being upon duty), he desir'd I uou'd inform you that he had purches'd a Captain's commission for Archie in Colonell Fleming's regiment, and pays for it, to Captain Scott, therteen hundred pound. If your lordship pleas, ordor Mr. Middelton to pay the mony to Mr. Wilkison, agent. Lord Loudon writtes that he shall take care to dispose of Archie's cornetcy to as good purpose as possible; he adds, that he is to see you soon in Scotland, and than satiesfie you of the necesity of taking this step befor he had your concurance. . . .

Believe me, with all the affections of a greatfull heart, your lordship's, etc.,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

I had allmost forgot to inform your lordship that Archie writtes me he does not receive the pay till such time as he has pay'd in the mony to Mr. Wilkieson, who is to notiefie the receiving of it to Colonell Fleming.

To the honourable Lord Justice-Clerk, at Edinburgh.

February 1, 1744.

303. My dear lord — So soon as I had yours I intimate the contents of the secund page to Mr. Craufurd, to which I hope he will have regard.

I assure your lordship that I mention'd all thos things I complean of to himself, so soon as I made the discovery; and thought the trespasses so great and so evident, that he wou'd have exerted himself in redressing the grievencs, since he had not prevented them, which no doubet was a part of his office.

Surly you wou'd blame me for negligence and unjustice if I continued a silent spectatur when my oun eyes convinces me of my son's suffering, in point of intrest, by having his timber cutt; his lime sold off his grounds to a great quantity; tillage of parks beyond the limits of their tacks; pocessions continued much below the vallow, where there is no tacks; land carried off by rivars, and pocess'd by othars and inclos'd and ploued as their oun; march stons remov'd; and, indeed, too manny inormitys to be narated in a letter. This you may believe to be facts, which I do not take from report, but from my oun eyes, and are in my opinion unsuffirable, and in that light must naturaly poot me upon beging your assistance to have them redrest.

I believ'd the properest and surest uay to be that of a remite from the countrie of that nature I formerly mention'd to your lordship. I did not intend thereby to give you any trouble; but expect'd Mr. Lockhart and Mr. Farcharson wou'd inspect into the affair, which, together with my oun assistance, might poot thing upon a better footing. If this is not don befor uarning time expires, it will be a menifast loss to Lord Eglintoune; since it's possible to reas his rents considerably about the toun of Killwinning.

Non upon earth can retain a deepar sens of the great trouble and expence you have been

at upon my account, in the protecting my orphant famely. I honour and love you for it. The tribute of my heart is yours; and all my abbilitys shall ever be imploy'd in acknouledging the blissing I have pocest in such a friend. To thinke of you annimats my spirits, and soothes my cares. Do not in a thought withdraw your kindness from one who hang upon you as their threed of life, but yete uou'd quite the hold reithar as be thought burthinsome.

Tho' it uou'd give joy to see you here, I will not expecte it, if you thinke Mr. Lockhart and Mr. Farcharson can rectifie what's amiss; and by their report to you, you may diside. Pardon all my falts, and this of a long epistle from, my dear lord, your lordship's, etc.

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Eglintoun, April 17, 1744.

304. Your kind simpathy, my dear lord, in my present melanholy situation, gives great consolation. To know I havs still such a friend as you are in life, will give me a relish of it. One that knows the just vallow of things as you do, cannot blame my sorrow for such a sensible loss as I have sustained. . . .

No doubet your lordship knous that Archie is a cornet in the Grays, after having been nam'd an ensin in Graham's regiment of Marins — a commission by no means to my liking. I sopos he must joyn the armey soon, for which my heart trambels, but my fears must goe for nothing when his duty calls. In that evant, his equapage must be provided, which, no doubet, will cost mony. Sum of your acquaintance in the military will, I hope, be so good as informe your lordship what is nececary on such occasions.

I confide and relay upon that perpetuall friendshipe of yours, which has been so long my comfort and guide, that it still will suport me thorough the remaining periods of life, which, houever various, must still terminate in a through sence of obligation and gratitude to you, who has blist with so many deeds of favour and kindness, my dear lord, your obediant, etc.

S. EGLINTOUNE.

I give my affectionat service to Lady Milton and all the young folks.

Eglintoun, June 24, 1744.

305. My dear lord — I had a letter last post from my son Archie, informing me of the ordors he had receiv'd to joyn the regiment. He beg'd I uoud make his appolagie to your lordship for not writting (which he says is ouing to the hurrie he is in). He hopes you'l pardon him, and as an evidence of it, procure him letters of credite at Bruxels, to what extent you think proper. He seems highly delighted with his promotion. I wish he may be of the sam opinion at the end of the campaigne.

Young Blair, who has now compounded with his father's creditors for 4500 lb., uou'd gladly borrow the money from Lord Eglintoune. He wou'd give heritable security upon 12,000 mark a year, besids an asignation to old debets upon the estat alredie payed by him

for the lete old Laird of Blair. My son told me he inclin'd to have any money he had laid out upon good security in this country. No doubet your lordship will agree its most for his intrest, besids much mor conveniant; for which reason, if you approve, I shou'd be glad any mony my son has lent were reaised against Mertimess, and laid out as above propos'd. I intreat your ansuer to this, that I may comunicat the same to Blair's doars.

All here joyns in affectionat services to you, Lady Milton, and the young folks, and begs you'l accept of ws as, my dear lord, your lordship's, etc.

S. EGLINTOUNE.

To the honourable the Lord Justice-Clerk, at Edinburgh.

Eglintoun, Septr. 17, 1744.

306. My dear lord—I had a leter this day from my young solger, beging, in the most pressing tarmes, that I wou'd write to your lordship to allow him to purchess a cumpanie. All his friends in the armey are of opinion it is a right thing, and will conduce much to his addvancement.

As he has made that way of life his choice, I'll bee glad how soon he reases himself in it. If your lordship is of the same opinion, I am sure it will make Archie happie. Lord Loudon has told him he knous of a cumpanie to be dispos'd of, and, as no time is to be lost, I intreat for your ansuer. Believe me, with sinceir affection, your lordship's, etc.

S. EGLINTOUNE.

To the honourable Lord Justice-Clerk, at Edinr.

Eglintoun, Oct. 4, 1744.

307. My dear lord—I wrote your lordship sum days since, that my son Archie press'd hard to have leave to purchess a Captain's commission. He beg'd I uou'd send him your opinion; and, as seniority in ranke is of consequence, I'm hopefull you'l not disaprove. Lord Loudon has told him he knows of a commission just now to be dispos'd of. . . .

The bad season gives a dismall prospect in this countrie; the corns, tho' cut doun, are rotting upon the ground. I design to see you this wintar, which will be a consolation for most of the ills of life. The young ladys joyns me in assuring you they thinke so, as well as, my dear lord,

Your obedient, etc.

To the honourable Lord Justice-Clerk, Edinr. S. EGLINTOUNE.

Ayr, April 12, 1748.

308. My dear lord—The hope of seeing your lordship soon under my roof, gives a peculiar joy to expectation; believe me this does not only arise from a thorough sence of obligation, but the reall happieness and honour of having the best of beiengs with me in a sociall way.

I had this day a letter from Mistress Stivenson, with the accounts of Lady Grace's perfect recoverie, and that she thinks they may with saftie sete out for Scotland, but that the last remittance will not be soficient. If your lordship pleas to send her a bill for £30, that will do her

bussiness. The sooner the bettar. Lord Kennedy and Mr. Kennedy joyns me in compliements to Lady Milton and the young ladys. I am, your lordships affectionat gratefull

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Killmars, Augst 25, 1751.

309. My dear lord — With the outmost consern I hear of Lady Milton's illness. I hope the bearer will bring me favorable accounts. I find by the lete marks of your favour (which my son mentioned to me,) that your good offices are perpetual to my famelie. I hope their gratitude will be proportionable to them. All that my soule is capable of, you have and ever will pocess.

My nephew Davie Kennedy mentioned a letter which he said I had wrote to John M^c^Kenzie upon a lete melanholie occasion, which gave my best of friends, Lady Milton, uneasieness upon my account. I intreat you'l tell her I never wrote such a letter to John M^c^Kenzie nor have I black'd papire to him this tuelve months.

Poor sistar Nugent is in a diplorable way: a broaken heart is a painfull death. That sorrow may be a stranger to yours, are the wisshess of, my dear lord,

Your infinitly obliged humble servant,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Be so kind as make compliement for me, where you thinke they are due.

Kilmaurs, April 12, 1753.

310. My dear lord — I hope my long absence from my best and dearest friend has not quite banished me from his remembrance; that is the onlie evant cou'd possablie cloud a retirement from the world, which, in reality, is my choice; nor do I recolect any thing in my solitarie houres that pleases or delights me more, than the contemplation of Lord Milton.

To that same wisdom and goodness to which I have so often appail'd with success, I now applie for councile as to my poor unfortunat sistar Nugent. She has been vastly low, and much disranged in her spirits. My son Eglintoune (who has shewen great humanity touards her) uou'd inform of the necessity there is for her having a cepirate aliment. Captain Nugent and Mr. Kerr are both most willing your lordship and my son Eglintoune ditermin what's reasonable for them to give for her support during the Captain's life, and I am convinced they will joine in giving any cecurity your lordship will pleas to compile for that end.

Mr. Kerr is doing a great dele in the countrie, and intends stieng there in the summer. As the house is small, it cannot accomodate my sister and them. The sooner she removes elsuhere, so much the bettar. Mr. Kerr makes her uelcome to his house in Air, but her friends here thinks that place an unproper cituation, till such time as she is in a bettar state of helth. I have often made offer of my litle habitation, which I hope she will accept of. It's but a

melancholy prospect I can have from such a companion in her distressfull way; but I hope a sense of duty will make the most difiqualt evants suportable to, my dear lord,

Your lordship's much obliged and most obediant humble servant,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

I beg my most affectionat service may be offer'd Lady Milton, and all my young cusins.

Kilmaurs House, March 6, 1757.

311. My dear lord — It is only in such minds as your lordship's, that one can expect or wish to be remember'd. I flatter myself that I still am honour with a place there. Believe me, the idea of it is my delight in solitude; and whilst my atention is fix'd upon your good qualitys and kind offices, I admire the perfection of human nature, and returns my thankes where they are due.

The bearer, Baillie Allison, is one I have long knoun for a very sensible honest man, useful, and much lik'd in the place he lives in; is a man of substance, and a treader, which his bill of saill and vendition will amplie voutch. The last magistracy of Irvin is universaly dislik'd, and I do believe from good grounds.

If your lordship will do Baillie Allisson the honour of addmitting him to your presence, you'l be convinc'd the charecter I give is not besids the truth.

Poor sistar Nugent continues bad, and has lost the use of her limbs, by contraction of the nervs. I offer my affectionat and most respectfull service to Lady Milton, and all my young friends; and am, with a most gratefull heart, my dear lord,

Your lordship's much obliged and most humble servant,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Kilmaurs House, March 24, 1757.

312. My dear lord — The honour your lordship payd to my recomendatory letter, togethar with the scviletys the bearers mete with, has charm'd all of ws. You really make me significant, though in obscurity, by that friendshipe, which I shall forever preserve as the juile of my heart. You are like others of excellancy, the more tried the more valouble.

Campbell and Allison was so atentive to all they heard or saw, that I had a faithfull naration. My dear Lady Milton has her tribute of prais; and I do assure your lordship, her beautie did not escape their panageric.

I heard this day from Abercairny, that my Highland colonell is one 100 above conpleet. A quick progress for a west country whig in the North Highlands. He is to be with the men in Glassgow as next week.

How poor are all my acknouledgment when balans'd with loads of favours to all that belongs to me. To make happie is your provence; and, alas! all I can do is to subscribe my self with

my wholl heart, as I do with my hand, my dear lord, your most gratuefull and obliged servant, S. EGLINTOUNE.

I give my affection to all the ladys.

To the right honourable Lord Milton, at Edinburgh.

Fourteen Letters from Susanna Countess Dowager of Eglintoun to her son-in-law, James Moray of Abercairny, and her daughter Lady Frances Montgomerie, 1748–1776.

(1.) To Mr. Moray.

313. Your sorrous, my dear son, addes to thos I must fiel for the loss of your dear diserving wife. I knou not what consolation to offer you. Experience has taught me that reason is too wake when opposd to violent grieff. Alas! how unexpected are the stroaks of fortoune. How litle do we know what time is pregnent with. Good, indead, it is for ws that we do not, since it woud only be antisipating our woes.

All your affections which you so tenderly exprest for my dear child will now, I hope, be transferd to her infants. For their sake take care of your helth; it is a great tasque (without a mothar) to bring upe daughters. God pitty you, and grant you that resolution and fortitude thats requeset for your situation. Your sistar Grace mingels her tears with mine, and condolls your havie load of sorrous. She has been very ill, but is now quite recoverd.

Give my blissing to Lady Francess. I'm persuaded she is in the deepest affliction. For God sake let me hear of your helth. If the sympathy of as sinceir friend, joyn'd to the affection of a mothar, can soften your anguish, dipend upon all that a sinceir heart can offer, and believe me, my dear son,

Yours with the outmost tenderness,

S. EGLINTOUNE.

Give my blissing to the children.

Ayr, July 23, 1748.

Mr. Moray of Abarcairnie to the care of the Post Master of Crief.

(2.) To Lady Frances Montgomery.

314. My dear Fanie — I receivd your from the hands of Mr. Muray yestarday in companie with Major Stuart. I was vastly pleas'd to see them, but that joy came not unmixd with sorroufull reflect, of great and iretrivable loss, too big for words to mention.

Dear child, upon a survie of many lete years of my life, don't you thinke they are diplorable? I do assure you I have, and do fiele them so; but as the hand which permits or ordeans all thing, continues me in the pocession of my reason, I shall indeavoure to bear my sufferings with as litle trouble to my fellow creaturs as possible.

It's a new addition the hearing that your helth is bad. Whey don't you take all possible means for recovery? Hear me implore you to do it. Dear Fanie, be not deafe to the intreties of a parent; take care of your self. Surlie your mind, which I know is well regulate, will secure to its self that unspeacable pleasur of doing your duty: Is it not so, to comfort a parent?

I was astonish'd to hear good Mr. Moray complain of a most dangirouse ailement, the supression of the animall spirits, and stagnation of the blood, without having don any thing for it. The most ignorant woud have blooded upon the first intimation of it, and taken evacuations. As you regard his life press this, and moderate exersise. I have known fatale consiquences insue upon complaints of the like kind. I do assure you that your last letter is the only one I have had since you was at Air. I hope when this comes to your hand you'l lete me hear how you, Mr. Moray, and the children are. I'll live upon the hopes of seeing you, and will amuse myself in geting a room to lodge you, which indead at present (had you come) was not in my pouer. Hope (which to me has been so blended with disapointment) is all I have to comfort me; and as it comes in that dress, it can't give great elivation of spirite: but I indeavour to extract this good from all that happens, to learn patience, which, without doubet, in time improves the understanding.

Is it not pitty that my daughter Renton should be so seveirly mortified? I pity her with all my soule, and fears her life won't be of a long date. The only thing I have heard of lete worth notice, is Lord Marishals promotion. Be sure to write, dear child, and believe me most affectionatly, your mothar,

Kilmars, Sept. 17, 1751. S. Eglintoune.

To the right honourable Lady Frances Montgomery at Abercarnie.

(3.) To the same.

Kilmars, Nov. 12, 1751.

315. I long'd extremly to hear from my dear Fannie, and has this day that gratifiecation, togethar with the joyfull news that the laird is bettar, and my doughter Renton with child; tuo evants most comfortable to me. Poor woman, she has had such disapoyntments in her charming litle ons, that it can't miss of damping all her joys and stiffeling every daun of future hopes.

Dear Fannie, your without compliement, very unlike your oun sex in most of their foiblesses, but in nothing more than that of hiding your talants. No body writtes bettar, and yete you writte so seldome, that if I did not know the goodness of your heart, I woud intertain the painefull thought that you had forgote me. I wish you had told me of your oun helth: I wish and long to know particularly about it.

As to my self, I am bettar than most people at my time of life. I fiell my afflictions, and the approach of time; but I hope I shall be able to suffer both with that fortitude of mind as to give other people no trouble. The house I am is a very odd one at present, but as I have leave to

make the most of it, I hope to make it sum bettar than a ministars mans. No bodie is fondar of a good house than I am; but when I compare that want to othar disapointements I have mete with, it appears a nothing. I have carpinders and masons still working at it. It's necessity makes me continue them: it held out neithar wind nor witt, and I fell tuice thorough the floor. But as the do it by the piece, the expence comes to be the same. So soon as it's habitable I'll intreat the comfort of seeing you. Wee have plenty of fine coall, and for an inland place its pritty, but near a vilage, from which I find disadvanteges.

I have been quite allon this long time. Miss Smith who was here is not yete returnd. She uas bred in Mistres Pope's boarding school, and after that long in a convent, though protostent. She reads vastly well, and has good sense, and is indead the fiteist companion for me in this countrie; besides, she is very handie, and never idle. Her father was a leutenant in Stair's Dragons, but he sold out, and provided his son and daughter very well.

I am going to turn the soued hanging into a bede, and am bussie knoting fringes to mount it: I have don one pound of threed. Lete me know how many pounds yours took. Have you no good news to tell me? Don't you thinke the stars dissappear prity fast? That is surly a sign the son approaches nearer our hemisphere. When your dispos'd for it, write to me, and doublie diserve the blissing of, my dear Fannie,

Your affectionat mothar, S. Eglintoune.

I give my blissing to all my sons and daughters.

To the right honourable Lady Frances Montgomery, at Abercarney, Criff Post.

(4.) To the same.

316. I now begin to long again to hear from my dear Fannie, and how her sociaty of litle friends does. I hope the laird him sell is in perfect helth. The sudant death of my nighbour Langshaw, ought to warn all mankind to be ware of bad wine. He dranke too much for a man of tempirence, of old mountan wine, with Lord Glencairn, at his own house upon Friday, took inflamation in his bouels upon Saturday, and died upon Monday, and is to be buried tomorow. His eldast daughter, it's said, is to be maried to Captain Cuninghame of Corshill, and his son to a daughter of Sir John Maxuell's of Polok. No neus maks such noise in this countrie as that handed about relating to your sistar Mackdonald's reception at Court, and her conversation with his Majestie. It's given out, that after her full declaration of all things relating to the affairs of what hapend in the 45, she assur'd his Majestie that the Pretendar's son (if he ever made a secund atempt), shoud never have leave to sete foot upon her island; and to convince him of her loyaltie, she desird he uou'd take her two sons and educate them at Hanover; which his Majestie approv'd of, and has setled upon her 500 lb. per annum. Lord Glencairn repeets this as from good hands. I sopos the sum of the matter is, that the family will gete sumthing in lew of Sir Alexander expending time, money, and othar vallouable considirations in their service.

Your friends at Air continue much as useuall. Lord Kennedy complains much. Mr. Kerr and Captain Nugent, and my sistar, has setled all differences, so he goes into pocession of Newfield at Whitsunday, and is to build a house. Mr. Fullerton has Mr. Norrie and Caudle to paint and uphostle; his to be redie for his lady inlaying. I can't give you any more inteligence from this cornor, unless I were to intertain you with the recitale of foolys, which may have bad effects, and things which I regrate but cannot remadie. I am, my dear Fannie,

With much affection, your mothar,

Kilmars, March 16, 1752. S. Eglintoune.

I give my blissing to all my sons and daughters. I have never stir'd from this place farther than my feet carries me, since I came here.

(5.) To Mr. Moray.

317. My dear son — You'l be surpris'd at my long silence, when your last letter was so intresting; but as I have had an inflamation upon my right eye, it was impossible for me to write, and now that I atempt it, it's hard upon me.

I cannot express to sorrow I fiele at the accounts you have so fully given me of your vallouable son. I see it in a melancholy light. I sopose it is a polipose in the ventruals of his heart, which alas! is alluays fatle. You have don all that's possible, which is some consolation. His discreation is such, that I thinke you may add this farther mark of your jenirouse goodness, to leave it to himself to reside where he pleases.

I had a letter from Mistress Seaton, fill'd with accompts of your jenirosity to her, and her thankfullness for it. Indead it was such, that it exceeded what I cou'd have asked, had I been umpire in the affair. But I hope the Major and she will be worthy of it. I long to hear if the Major is likly to gete any promotion; by all appearence it's more than possible their will be emptie sadels. Has not the ministrey brought ane old house upon their head? Surly Britain never (in my days) was in such circumstances. I realie think the fire of Mr. Pitt's tempar has consum'd his understanding. Was ever such language used in counsile or negotiation. He has cut out a fin piece of work for his successors! What will become of the landed intrest with this war? the merchand who benifite by it, and the Jermons, with Prince Ferdinand at their head, will purihess them. Who can think of this without fears?

As to your son Charls, I am sorie he has left his accadamie. Idleness accompanied with spirits, are dangirous companions at London. I expected his uncels wou'd have been a cheke upon him. As he is now an officar, it's possible you may have less the pou'r of direction. It's no bad pollasie to have all the antiant famelys in dependance upon court favour.

I acknouledg with thankfullness my debets of all kinds to you, and begs your forbearence to Lambess first. I bliss you and all my children, and am, my dear son,

Your affectionat mothar,

Kilmars House, Jan^{y} 15, 1762. S. Eglintoune.

The only surprising news in this country is, Mr. Moray's selling his estate when his house is more than third way upe. Sandie Craufurd has sold Newwark to Lord Cassillis. It is net 1500 mark, and has gote 3800 pond sterling for it. It has neithar wood nor coall, and only a litle old shell of a house. It lays indead contiguous to his lands of Greenan. Some says it's for Blair of Dunskie, and that he is to sell his lands in Gallaway.

My son has given me the Ahans, and I intend going there. It's a very larg house — quite out of repair but the room he had for him self; but this place is so damp, it is untolirable: and I'll do upe as much as will serve me. I beg to here frome you; it's one of the greatest consolations I have. Extrem bad wethar, a sore eye, and quite allon, requirs philosophy: nature has blist me with some share of it. Adieu. I'm just now told that a lass of the name of Mackertar, eithar in the Hill, or Holl, has produs'd a daughtar to the Colonel, and named it Frances. I sopos Lady Fanney knous her.

To Mr. Moray of Abercairney, at Abercairney, Crieff Post.

(6.) To the same.

318. Every letter I receive from my dear son is fraught with new joys, and this last cums nothing short of the former. If my blissing and approbation can add to my grand child's, Miss Bettie's happieness, I do bestow them with all my soule.

Lord Rollo's charecter is no stranger to me. Say much for me to his lordship, and assure him I am prowd of his alayance. The tarms you mention are good, and I hope in all respects your daughter will ansuer his merite and expectation.

I wish Mistress Drumond a happie houre and a fin boy. Litle as the world atracts my atention, you and yours are ever present with me. The merite of your son James, etc., are in the mouthe of every bode, and the indulgence of so kind, so diserving a parrent, is never without its elogium. I wish he may return in helth: and if wishess wowd do, I have on more, and that is, his mariag with one I can name. I know Lady Fanny will approve of it. I have heard her say so. As non goes unrewarded at your hands, she too has (I am sure) all she can wish for her past or futtar appliecation to your famely. Accept of my bllessing ten thousand times. Cou'd I approach you, I woud seall this with a kiss.

I writte this in hurry, but will soon give my reasons for not ansuering your last. Dar I aske you to writte me when you have a spair moment? Without compliement, it gives new life to, my dear and much lov'd son, Your affectionat mothar,

Auhans, Febr. 13, 1765. S. Eglintoune.

(7.) To the same.

319. As my dear son's heart is now filld with just caws of sorrow, I need only desire him to compare

mine with his own. I lament the loss — the litle darling — upon many many accounts, which your own mind will sojest.

I am indead anxciously consernde for my grand daughter, mistress Drwmmond. Cou'd pitty do her any service, she wou'd fiell the effects of mine; but well do I know that nothing but time can mitigate the poignant angwish.

I bege to know what farther happens, and how the relations of the diparted man of worth behaves to my distress child.

I hope all the rest of my grand childrer are as well as can be expect'd at this melancholly period. Give my blissing to all of them; and be persuaded that I am, with love and esteem, my dear son,

Yours affectionately,

Eglintoun, May 28, 1766. S. Eglintoune.

To Mr. Moray of Abrcairney, at Blair Drummond, Pairthshire.

(8.) To the same.

Auhans, Jun 24, 1766.

320. My dear son — You'l perhaps complain of me, that I have not since your lete loss, wrote to you nor my distrest child Mistress Drummond. The truth is in reality this, that condollance reithar revives ons sorrows as lwlls them; and I cow'd not write myself upon that melancholy evant of so great a loss, without my tears blotting owt what I wrote. My past misfortuns upon a simular case lays still havie at my heart. I now intreat to know how deare distrest mistress Drummond does, and if Lord Kemes uses her like a jentleman or a lawear — the diffirence is so wide that it is soon perceptable.

I have pleasure in hearing from London, that your son looks bettar than his friends expected. He is most diservidly esteem'd. Don't you believe I have much exersise of my reason, when strugle with dispairing hops of the life of Sir James Macdonald and that of your son, men not only delightfull to their friends, but ornaments to it. My dear son, life at all periods is full of cares; but age has many accumolate woes.

I am much oblig'd to the libirall hand of Providence, that dalles with such bowntie to me. Helth, reason, and the commons senses, are not the portion of every bodie of my agé. But iven these great injoyments serves to highen the ideas I have of merite, which I confess is rare to be mete with in this age, and indead is the only thing worth being atatch too.

Give my blissing to Lady Francis and all my children; and believe me your

S. Eglintoune.

To Mr. Morray of Abercairney, Criff Post.

(9.) To the same.

Auhans, Jun 4, 1768.

321. My dear son — The intimation you give me in your last of owr unspeacable loss overwhellms me

with a just sorrow; and the thoughts of your sufferings, togethar with the rest of
with you, swell my grieffes to excess. How than can I comfor you, wher
support of myself? Fortitude and reason may restrain our complaints, but
unfielling. Time is the only remadie, I do believe, that can procure its ease
myselfe, what does leingth of days signifie? It only serves to accumolate

The Colonell shars our sorrous with great sensabbility I intreat you'l
all my beloved children; and, if it's not painfull for you to write, lete me
am, much affection, my dear son, yours,

To Mr. Moray of Abercairney, Crieff Post.

(10.) To the same.

Auhans, De

322. My dear son — You have in all situations sheued your self so good a par
son, that I have no reason to doubet making a proper choise for the last femill
I can with all my heart bliss the pair, when joynd, as my grand children.
obstracted from the world, that I am quite a stranger to the jntleman; but as
is no bad judg) gave me his charecter, I have reason to believe my grand
happie. Give my blissing to my offspring, accept of it yourselph, and belie
affection of my soule, your mothar,

Indorsed: 'Lady Eglintoune's letter upon the marriage of my daughter

(11.) To the same.

323. I hope my dear son will pardon my having been so long of ansuering his wel
cou'd you be so long of giving me so sensible a joy as that of hearing from you

I have hade the pleasure of seeing Mr. and Mrs. Sinclar. She is like you
is a man of vivasity and verie good understanding. I regrate their short sti

Don't you admire young Lady Eglintoune? I do think a charming companion. She is endoued with mannie quallitys that few of her age is posest of.

This dezmall seasson is uncomfortable to man and beast. I hope it is now over, and has eoak'd my plow, in which I have great pleasure and profite. Sum of my land yeilds 14 for one. How do you goe on in that way?

I'm sorie to see in the prints, my good old friends going off the stage befor me. I am tranquill about my [*sic*] of them. A few years past has alter'd the face of most things to me, much more than all my formar life.

Give my blissing to Lady Fannie, and believe me, my dear Mr. Moray,

Your most affectionat mothar,

Ahans House, 14 of Febr. 1773. S. Eglintoune.

(and initials. In block capitals)
NAME BLACK 7
DATE 13 MAY 1988
Books will be kept until the date stamped below
No books from open shelves may be removed
953

(12.) To the same.

Ahans House, 9 of February 1774.

324. My dear son — I wish from my soule this may find Lady Francess bettar of her complaints, and that she thinkes of taking the goat's wheay. I do look upon it as a Catholican. Life is often prolong'd for mortifications. I meet with mannie. Your son the Captain past at Irvien to the port, when this was the nearest way. Had the famelie been at Eglintoun I ought to have excus'd it.

There's no neus in this countrie but that of bancrupsie and want of monie. A tenant of Mr. Ritchie's at Busbie, has broak and obsconded, to the vallow of £5000, most of it borroud monie. You'l see by the prints the state of the Herron Bank at Ayr, where the fermars gote money with so much ease, that they forgote the vallow of it, and foold it auay. Lord Cassillis has numbers of his fermars broak; but was nòt consern'd in the bank. The elections in this place occasions great divisions. All thos was of my son's partie last time is now against his man. Captain Montgomerie, Lord Cassillis, and Mr. Kennedy joyns him; but it's hard to know who will succeed, though Lord Loudon asists. I expect to hear from you. When I thinke of you, I bliss you and Lady Frances; and am, with much affection, my dear childerin, your mothar,

S. Eglintoune.

To Mr. Moray of Abercairney, Crieff Post.

(13.) To the same.

Auhans House, 10 of March 1774.

325. My dear son — Nothing cou'd have intorupted my ansuring your kind epistle but want of helth. I never was so low spirieted in all my life as of lete, and no wonder, were I to tell you all the truth; but that must remain with myself till meeting.

It's a vast addition to my gloomie thoughts the accompts you give me of Lady Frances illness. This consolation I have, that she cou'd be no wher so well taken care of as with you, whos jenirositie and affection may be dipended upon. I give her my blissing with my wholl heart.

There never was such a bustle about elections as now in this countie. Lord Eglintoune, Lord Casstels, and Lord Loudon, are joynd for Mr. Kennedy, and making manie new vottars. All the votars that joyn'd my son against Mr. Kennedy at the last is jainst, and against my son to a man. The evant is doubetfully talked off. I'm told great strugalls is thoroug all poor Scotland, and nothing prevaills but coruption.

I intreat you'l write me how my daughtar does, and who is strugling to win the Brues in your countie. I give my blissing to all my children with yow, and am, with my wholl heart, my dear son,

Your most affectionat mothar, S. Eglintoune.

I sopos you have heard of Captain Montgomeries betting the governor's gardinar at Minorcar. He is now freed from his areast — has liberty to travell, but not to cum home.

(14.) To the same.

326. My dearest son — A relase from anguish has not reach'd my heart, since my unparleld misfortune, till I had the cumpaney of my daughter, whoes merite is so well known to yow. And it's no small addition to it, to find that my grandson exceeds my expectation in common conversation. He does in reality exceed most of those in this nighborhood, and in duty to you, all of them. It's most unwillingly that he has stide one day beyond your ordors to return.

I am far from well, and every day meets with new rememberancers of the loss I have sustain'd. This subject moves me so much that I must leave it, and conclude with to hear sometimes from yow, and hoping that our union never will disolve but with the dissolution of, my dear son,

Your affectionate mothar,

Auhans, Jun 7, 1776. S. Eglintoune.

Five Letters from Hugh, twelfth Earl of Eglinton, to Alexander Mundell, solicitor, London.

Eglinton Castle, 22nd May 1808.

327. Dear sir — The copy of Mr. Rickman's letter, Secretary to the Commissioners for Highland Roads and Bridges, to you, is exactly what I expected from the stile of the former correspondence. From the first appearance of the matter, the prejudice against the Harbour of Ardrossan was evident, and the partiality to others, without considering or comparing the advantages to be derived from either in a national point of view. Had the Commissioners really wished to know the benefit to be derived to the public from this harbour being completed, with the consequent junction of the canal with it,—had they wished to know in what state of forwardness the works carrying on there were, they would have employed some person in whom they have confidence, to go to the place and see what was done. They then would have known that the greatest part of a beautiful and extensive pier was already built; and would have seen with surprise the kind of work, and the exertions made by a few individuals, who, whatever they may think of the matter, came forward at a considerable risk, not from private advantage to themselves, but from Public spirit, and considering the undertaking as peculiarly beneficial to the country at large, but to the west of Scotland in particular. It is true, in every thing of this nature, subscribers do, and must expect some return for the money they advance, and the risk they run, — farther than this, the subscribers to the Ardrossan Harbour disavow every selfish principle.

The bay of Ardrossan being upon my property, it may be considered self interest in me It is well known to you, that when I first considered a canal to be brought from Glasgow

as beneficial to the country, such a place as Ardrossan was not known, nor had any body an idea of its being capable of being made a harbour. The line proposed was from Glasgow to whatever part of the coast of Ayrshire a proper harbour could be found. Before I quit the part of the subject, I must observe upon the modest request of the Commissioners, of requiring, as a condition, to know what is the least sum which would induce the parties to complete the desired work. They themselves acknowledge that it would be a small portion of the total expenditure which could possibly be afforded to the harbour of Ardrossan. Yet they think themselves entitled to demand an assurance, that the whole of the work shall be completed by the subscribers, on the Commissioners advancing a thousand pounds or two of public money. Whether, in this situation, have the subscribers or the Commissioners most at stake in having the work completed?

I have now the satisfaction to inform you, that Lord Cathcart, commanding His Majesty's forces in North Britain, has a very different view of the subject. His lordship not only sent professional people to examine and report, but went himself to see it. In consequence, I have received a letter from his lordship to inform me, that having for sometime past entertained sanguine expectations that the harbour and pier of Ardrossan would prove the most eligible point in North Britain for embarking troops for Ireland, and vice versa — that he had directed Lieutenant Flyn, agent for transports, to go there, examine the state of the pier, and to ascertain whether tonnage could be procured at Ardrossan to carry the 42nd Regiment from thence to Ireland — that he had received a very favourable report from Lieutenant Flyn, also stating that he had secured vessels. Every thing is now ready for embarking, and the whole of the regiment may be embarked in one day with ease; as the regiment may march from Glasgow in two divisions — one division to be at Stewarton, and the other at Beith, the first night. By this means both may arrive at Ardrossan and be embarked the same day.

I will write you upon the Crinan Rock, &c. probably by to-morrow's post. You are mistaken in some points with regard to it. Nautical men have but one opinion upon it.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

Eglinton

I have no objection to this letter being shown to the Commissioners, or to any one else you please.

Eglinton Castle, 2nd April 1812.

328. Dear sir — Before I left London last spring, I heard that several of my brother Peers were making interest to get the Green Ribbon, vacant by the death of the Duke of Queensberry.

I thought, therefore, that I might put in my claim also; not in the least interested about it, however. I accordingly addressed the Prince by letter, but made no application to any man on earth on the subject. I did not think or expect that it would have (been) any more thought of, until lately that I received a letter from Mr. Perceval, wrote by the commands of His Royal Highness, with an offer of the Ribbon for my acceptance. This most gracious and condescending mark of His Royal Highnesses favor, I was highly flattered by; and certainly could not hesitate a moment of accepting with gratitude. I must observe, however, that I would not have done so, had it been on any other footing. I am no party man. My attachment was to His Royal Highnesses royal person, and from His Royal Highness I received it, and am under no obligation to any minister or individual whomever.

As I have not quite recovered the very severe fit of illness I had, I cannot be in town for some time. Will you be so good as inquire, and inform me, if there are forms in receiving the Ribbon, and what they are? I suppose it is not necessary my being in town upon the occasion: the particulars I will be obliged to you to let me know, and I am, dear Mundell, yours faithfully,

EGLINTON.

Eglinton Castle, 10th February 1814.

329. Dear sir — I suppose you will have heard before this time, the melancholy accounts of the death of my son, Lord Montgomerie. I received a letter from Dr. Robertson, physician to the forces at Alicant, wrote at his desire, to inform me of the state of his health, dated the 3d of last month, from which I had not the least hopes of his recovery. I have not received any other letter; but Mr. Anderson writes from Edinburgh, that Sir John Murray had wrote to his mother, that he died on the 4th, the day after Dr. Robertson wrote me. You may be sure we are all here in the utmost distress.

I am not a little anxious to know whether he has made any sort of settlement, or appointed trustees and curators to his children; there is nothing of this kind to be found in this country, altho' Mr. Russell hinted to him the propriety of it. Perhaps he may have left it with you. I entreat you will write me fully in course, and believe me to be, dear sir,

Your faithful humble servant,

EGLINTON.

Alex. Mundell, Esq., 45 Parliament Street, London.

Eglinton Castle, 25th March 1815.

330. Dear sir — You will recollect that several years ago, in consequence of my son and Lady Montgomerie's having assumed the supporters, &c., of the earldom of Eglinton, I applied to Sir I. Heard, and got a clear and decided opinion upon the subject; a copy of which I now enclose you. On showing this to my son, he earnestly intreated, that as the arms were upon the carriages, &c., that they might be permitted to remain. As I did not consider it very material in the

situation in which he and I stood, I gave way, and they were permitted to remain, and in that state they have stood since his death, and even during Lady Montgomerie's widowhood. But now that she is again married, that altered the case, and I thought it proper to take some steps with respect to it. Soon after the marriage, therefore, I wrote to Mr. Russell, her ladyship's agent, stating the case to him, and requesting he would take an early opportunity to hint the matter to her, to prevent a mistake as to the arms; as it was much more delicate to do it in time, than to have a mistake corrected afterwards. This I find he has not done, for what reason I know not. Its being so long delayed, therefore, is no fault of mine; and I beg this may be explained. As I am now informed that the full arms and supporters of the earldom of Eglinton are put upon her ladyship's carriages, &c., I find it necessary to interfere; and I am convinced that it will only require to have the matter explained to her ladyship to have it put right. I therefore must request you to take an early opportunity to state the case to her ladyship, with Sir I. Heard's former opinion upon it. At the sametime, I beg you will represent that I should feel very unhappy if this could possibly be considered as acting with indelicacy or disrespect towards her. I am almost confident that no such unworthy conduct will be laid to my charge, but that it proceeds entirely from considering it my duty to support the rights of the antient earldom which I have the honor to represent. I will be glad to hear from you soon, and remain, dear sir, yours faithfully, EGLINTON.

Before speaking or writing to Lady Montgomerie, you had better employ some person to examine the arms on her ladyship's carriage, and compare them with those on this letter.

[Sir Isaac Heard's letter referred to above.]

College of Arms, London, 15 April 1807.

331. My lord — I had yesterday the honor of receiving your lordship's letter of the 11th inst., in which you desire my opinion whether Lord Montgomerie may properly bear the supporters of the Earls of Eglinton, either as heir apparent to the earldom, or in right of Lady Montgomerie, his wife, the eldest daughter and co-heir of Archibald late Earl of Eglinton; and your lordship adverts to the circumstance, that the said late Earl's father had acquired by purchase a considerable real estate, which having been entailed upon his heirs female, devolved, upon the death of the late Earl, to the present Lady Montgomerie.

I have the honor to observe, in reply, that according to the law and usage in England in that respect, Lady Montgomerie cannot properly bear the supporters of her late noble father, the same being annexed to the earldom; nor could I, as Garter King of Arms, exemplify those supporters to Lord Montgomerie during your lordship's life. In all patents of supporters, the grant is to the person bearing the title, and to those to whom the honor shall descend, according to the letters patent of creation. Supporters are, therefore, a personal distinction, and I should presume that the same rule must obtain in Scotland.

The circumstance of the inheritance of real estates by Lady Montgomerie, to which your lordship alludes, does not constitute any exception to the above general rule. I should mention, however, that in cases of dignities in fee, descendible to heirs general, the lady on whom such a dignity devolves may bear the supporters annexed to the same.

Your lordship having included the arms in your question, I beg to add, that the family arms of the late Earl of Eglinton should be borne on an escutcheon of pretence in the armorial achievement of Lord and Lady Montgomerie.

I shall always have a pleasure in rendering the best attention in my power to any of your lordship's commands. I have the honor to be, &c. &c. ISAAC HEARD, Garter.

The Earl of Eglinton, &c. &c. &c.

Eglinton Castle, 14th April 1815.

332. Dear sir — I have not yet heard from you in answer to my letter on the subject of the supporters of the arms of the earldom of Eglinton being put upon the carriage, and assumed by Lady Montgomerie. I repeat what I formerly mentioned on the subject, that I have not the most distant idea of showing disrespect to her ladyship; but it is a point on which I must insist; and as there cannot be a doubt of the justice of my claim, I hope it will at once be given up, and the supporters expunged. I regret extremely the awkward situation in which Mr. Russell has placed this matter in, by not giving intimation in proper time; but I have no blame in this.

Should there be any difficulty, which I hope will not be the case, it will be best to state my determination — to make an application to the proper channel for redress, in whatever way it can be obtained.

I am sorry to impose so delicate a duty upon you, but I could not apply any where else with the same propriety; and by you, I am sure it will be done with delicacy to both parties, and due respect to her ladyship. But the point cannot be given up. I request to hear from you, and I remain, dear sir, very sincerely yours, EGLINTON.

Family Portraits.

ROBERT 1ST EARL OF WINTON.

LADY MARGARET MONTGOMERIE COUNTESS OF WINTON,
AND LADY ISABELLA SETON COUNTESS OF PERTH

ALEXANDER SIXTH EARL OF EGLINTOUN, SURNAMED GREYSTEEL.
DIED 1661. AGED 73

HUGH 7TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

ALEXANDER 8TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

ALEXANDER 9TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

LADY MARGARET COCHRANE
COUNTESS OF ALEXANDER NINTH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.
MARRIED 1676.

SUSANNA COUNTESS OF EGLINTOUN

SUSANNA COUNTESS OF EGLINTOUN.

JAMES LORD MONTGOMERIE ELDEST SON OF
ALEXANDER NINTH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.
B. 1718.– D. 1724.

SIR ROBERT MONTGOMERIE OF SKELMORLIE.

ALEXANDER 10TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

ARCHIBALD 11TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

ALEXANDER 10TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

ARCHIBALD 11TH EARL OF EGLINTOUN.

JANE COUNTESS OF EGLINTOUN.

HUGH 12TH EARL OF EGLINTON.

ARCHIBALD LORD MONTGOMERIE.

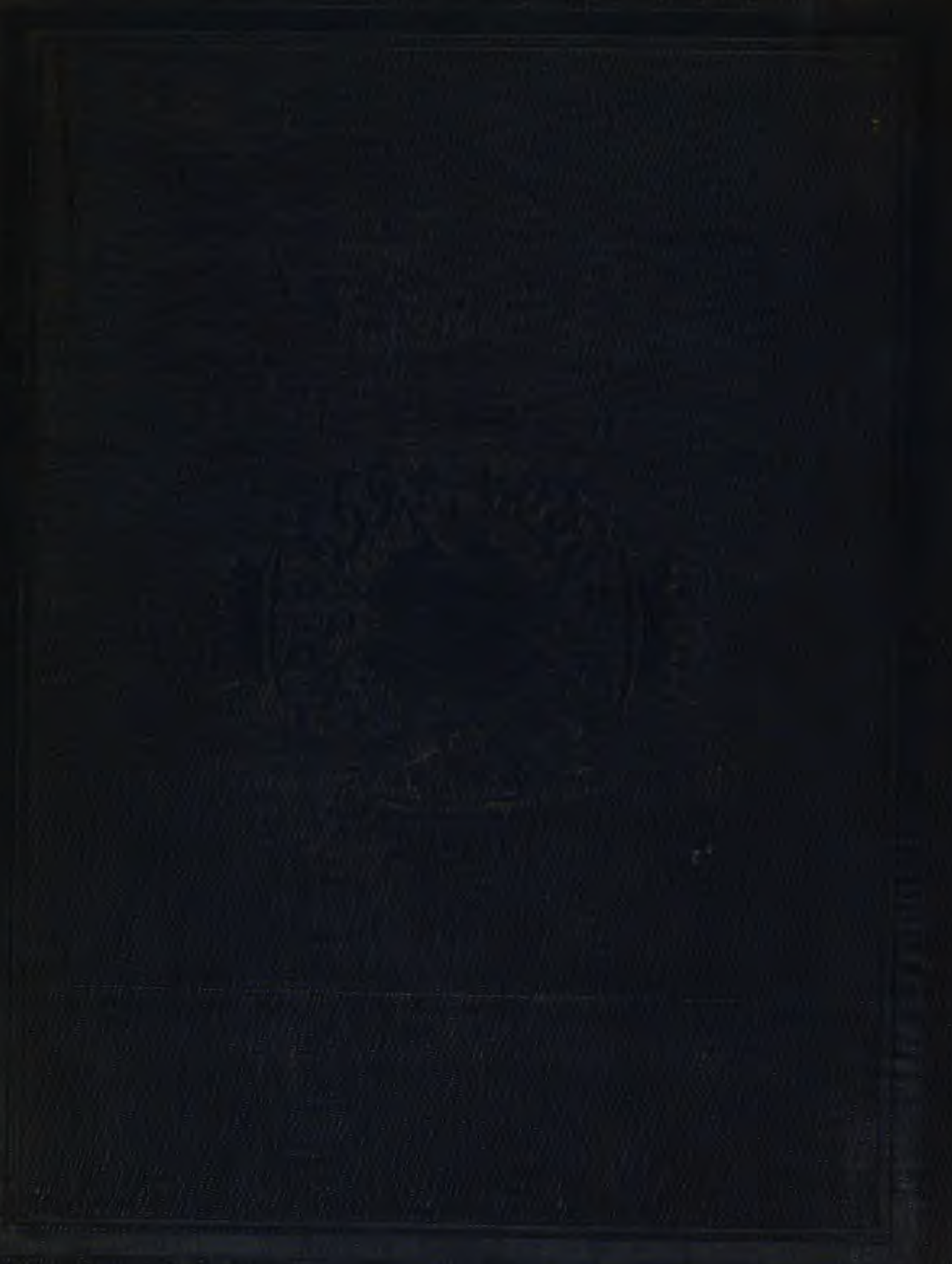
MARY LADY MONTGOMERIE & Mr CHARLES LAMB.

ARCHIBALD 13TH EARL OF EGLINTON.

LADY JANE MONTGOMERIE.

ARCHIBALD WILLIAM 13TH EARL OF EGLINTON:
& 6TH EARL OF WINTON.

THERESA COUNTESS OF EGLINTON & WINTON.

ARCHIBALD PRESENT LORD MONTGOMERIE.

ADELA COUNTESS OF EGLINTON & WINTON.